AWM78

Reports of Proceedings, HMA Ships and Establishments

AWM78 Class 347 - HMAS TORRENS (I)

File number: AWM78/347/2

Title: AWM78 347/2 - January-December 1973



RCDIG1072999

[347/2]

HMAS TORRENS

Declassification Authority—Defence Records
This record has been reviewed and has been declassified by the Department of Defence (Navy) with effect from: 17 DEC 90.
Authority Dig (N) Admin 18-13.
Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)
Signature: R L Smith Date: 12 MAR 91

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
ACCESS STATUS
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1973 -

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA
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350444 FK

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27 FEB
R.A.N.

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A.F. 1/16/58

26th February 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY 1973

1. Forwarded.

2. Difficulties in obtaining suitable springs for the main feed pump governor are still being experienced and are being investigated separately. However it is expected that the springs supplied to the ship immediately before deployment to ANZUK will provide satisfactory service until the return of the ship to Australia.

(A.A. Willis)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure:

HMAS TORRENS 1/16/2 dated 3rd February, 1973.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

1.16.2

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HMAS TORRENS
at Sea.

3rd February, 1973.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. Australian Fleet.

For Information:
Commander, 3rd Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of January, 1973. All times are Zone Lima (-11).

2. On New Years Day, TORRENS was berthed port side to HMAS BRISBANE at Cruiser Wharf, Sydney. The year began in an inauspicious fashion with a bomb hoax. Two telephone calls were received, the first at 2330 on Sunday 31st, and the second at 0113 on Monday 1st. A thorough search was made and action carried out in accordance with A.F. Memorandum No.100/70 and no bombs were found. Normal routine was resumed at 0210.

3. On Monday 1st, I proceeded on 14 days leave.

4. At 0810 on Thursday 4th, the ship was moved cold to berth port side to on HMAS STALWART at E.M.S. mooring. An assisted maintenance period had commenced on Wednesday 3rd.

5. Coincident with the ending of the leave period for the majority of the ship's company on Monday 15th, came the welcome news that TORRENS had been awarded the OTRANTO shield for 1972. Officers and sailors attended lectures on the new sailor structure in the Garden Island Dockyard Laboratory Theatrette on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th. These well delivered lucid explanations by the personnel liaison team were much appreciated.

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FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
- 6 FEB 1973
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

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6. At 0800 on Thursday 18th, the ship moved cold to No.2 buoy. Ammunition and Ikara missiles were embarked throughout the day and the ship remained at the buoy overnight. At 1200 that day I attended a farewell luncheon aboard HMAS STALWART consequent to the posting of RADM W.G. DOVERS, CBE DSC, R.A.N.

7. On Friday 19th, following a forenoon of Ikara alignment checks, TORRENS slipped and proceeded cold to berth starboard side to HMAS PERTH on STALWART at E.M.S. mooring, the manoeuvre finishing at 1510.

8. Demolition training for one Petty Officer and six sailors took place at the Holsworthy range. on Friday 19th.

9. At 0945 on Monday 22nd, TORRENS cast off and proceeded for exercises in the Jervis Bay areas in company with HMA Ships PERTH and DERWENT. Mr. J. GARDNER, civilian PRO photographer and Lieutenant D. ROBINSON, USN of FOCEA staff, embarked as passengers for the week. With the large majority of the ship's company having changed and a new First Lieutenant, this final shakedown week prior to deployment was of much importance to the ship. Throughout the week, the ship exercised in accordance with the EAXP. Good experience was obtained particularly in ASW where plentiful submarine assistance was available.

10. On the night of Tuesday 23rd, SWAN and TORRENS were steaming in company when a message was received on 500khz from Marine Operations Centre, Canberra stating that a light aircraft was in trouble in the vicinity of Moruya. Further messages revealed that the aircraft was presumed to have crashed and no accurate position could be given. Although HMA Ships were not required to participate in the search, it was possible for SWAN and TORRENS to shape an appropriate course without prejudice to exercises programmed in the EAXP (HMAS TORRENS Message 231253Z January, 1973 refers). Accordingly, both ships were off the coast south of Moruya before dawn on Wednesday 24th and made passage back to the exercise areas sweeping North parallel to the coast.

11. The north-easterly wind freshened considerably during Wednesday 24th, bringing rising seas. Planned serials for the afternoon had to be cancelled owing to the necessary facilities being unavailable. These included a boardex/towex, ILR and helo winching demonstration and a landing party exercise. During the afternoon, spent at anchor in Jervis Bay, Mr. L. McCLUSKEY and Mr. A. ARNDT from NTS, Garden Island, joined to observe 4.5" elevation recovery firings scheduled for the following day.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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12. On Thursday 25th, some problems with shell seduction were experienced during a 4.5" firing against a sleeve target. The shoot ended successfully, however, with a direct hit on the sleeve which parted but unfortunately sank before it could be recovered. A misfire was experienced during a surface firing against a Williams target at 1545 that afternoon. The defective cartridge was returned to INO Sydney for examination on Wednesday 31st.

13. At 1100 on Friday 26th, TORRENS berthed port side to at No.18 Wharf, Pyrmont, Royal Edward Victualling Yard, the first warship to berth there since 1953, and to store direct from the warehouses since 1946. This was a most successful visit from the viewpoints of both ship and yard. For berthing, conditions were ideal with virtually no wind, slack water and no merchant shipping either in the harbour or at adjacent berths. Facilities provided were timely and efficient and it is understood that SVSO is hopeful that visits by HMA Ships will take place. A report will be forwarded in due course to include recommendations regarding further use by Fleet units.

14. At 1400 on Friday 26th, TORRENS cast off and proceeded to berth starboard side to West Dock Wall at 1430. HMAS MORESBY berthed alongside at 1500, having been held off while TORRENS secured.

15. Following the Australia Day long weekend, I called on you Sir, at Fleet Headquarters and final preparations for deployment were completed on Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st. The Main Feed Pump had been a particular concern. Following unserviceabilities experienced in November and December of 1972, the pump governor had been modified during the assisted maintenance period. Spare governor control springs of Australian manufacture were tested by Garden Island Dockyard and the two closest to specification were issued and held onboard. However, in service these springs failed to maintain reasonable performance, and the Main Feed Pump was reduced to standby status. Springs of a different material were obtained and satisfactorily passed a trial p.m. on Wednesday 31st.

16. Thus the end of the month found TORRENS at West Dock Wall on the eve of deployment to ANZUK. Morale onboard is high, there has been only one request for compassionate posting and this was processed by Navy Office very promptly. The conduct of the ship's

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18-6-3981

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings Jan '73.

AS(NS) 28/2.

D of O 28/2 Shakedown. P. 13 - Levy Berth

DCNS GRG 1/3

CNS RP. 1/3

CNP 5/3

CNTS 8/3

CNSW 8/3

SECRETARY 9/3

C of S 12/9

DPR 13/3

D of O 14/3/73

AS(NS) (NS55)

NOTES: A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.

B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.

C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.

D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

27/2/73

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

company has been most satisfactory. The ship's company has been addressed on security matters during the month and the welfare committee is scheduled to meet on 1st February.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

H P Berger

(H.P. BERGER.)
COMMANDER, RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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Annex 'A' to the Commanding Officer, HMAS TORRENS
letter 1.16.2 dated 3rd February, 1973.

STEAMING ANNEX

Distance steamed during the month	1059.3	
Hours underway during the month	90.5	
Distance steamed since commissioning	76501.8	75501.8
Hours underway since commissioning	5326.7	

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour - N I L

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Annex 'B' to the Commanding Officer, HMAS TORRENS
letter 1.16.2 dated 3rd February, 1973.

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. GUNNERY

AATX - 1
AATFX - 1
NGSCX - 1
SUTF - 1
0.5" Machine Gun firings - 1

2. TAS and AIO

Demolition party training - 6 hours
CASEX A1 - 1
CASEX A2 - 1
CASEX A3 - 2
CASEX C2/C1 - 1
ARRX - 3
GOPEX - 2
RFX2 - 1
LWO2 Checks - 1

3. COMMUNICATIONS

EWX1 - 1
EWX2 - 1
EWX6 - 2
EWX13 - 2
EWX14 - 1
NAVCOMEX 604 - 1
NAVCOMEX 453 - 1

4. SEAMANSHIP and NAVIGATION

OOW Manoeuvres - 2
Light Jackstay - 2
Manoverboard - 2
Steering Gear Breakdown Drills - 3
Splash Target Streamed - 1

5. NBCD

Machinery Breakdown Drills - 1

6. DIVING

Day Exercises - 4
Night Exercises - 1

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

Annex 'C' to the Commanding Officer, HMAS TORRENS
letter 1.16.2 dated 3rd February, 1973.

A/S WEAPONS FIRING ANNEX

Light mortar firings	1 (2 salvoes of three bombs)
Live mortar firings	1 (1 salvo of three bombs)

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18/6/4019

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings FEB. 73

AS(NS) 10/4.

D of O ~~10/4~~ Passage to Singapore and ANZUK Service

~~D GOP~~

DCNS 11/4

~~CNS~~ 16/4

CNP 17/4

~~CNTS~~ 18/4

CNSW 19/4

SECRETARY 26/4/73

C of S ~~26/4~~

~~DPR~~ D 3/4

~~AS(NS)~~ (NS55) 1/5/73

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6/4/73

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

5 APR 73

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18 | 6 | 4019

Telephone: KF
380444

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000
2nd April, 1973

A.F. 1/16/58

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY, 1973

References: A. ATP 16
B. BR67(3)

1. Forwarded.

2. With reference to paragraph 8, I am informing HMAS TORRENS that I consider 60 feet undesirably close for transfers with a submarine; 80 feet should be close enough.

3. With reference to paragraphs 19 and 22, I am explaining to COMANZUKNAV RAN policy concerning passage speeds.

(A.M. Synnot)
Rear Admiral
Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure: HMAS TORRENS 1/16/2 dated 5th March, 1973.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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HMAS TORRENS,
At Sea.

5th March, 1973

1.16.2

Flag Officer Commanding,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

For information:

The Commander ANZUK Naval Forces, Singapore

The Commander, Third Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY, 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of February, 1973.

2. At the beginning of the month, TORRENS was berthed starboard side to West Dock Wharf at Garden Island Dockyard. Exceptionally heavy rain was experienced early in the forenoon, and your visit Sir in such conditions, to farewell the ship, was very much appreciated. TORRENS cast off and proceeded for ANZUK deployment at 1000L, watched by relatives and friends on the jetty.

1/2/73

3. The passage north to Townsville was made without incident and in gradually improving weather. Although the ship's track was planned to pass as close as seemed prudent to the Australian coast, the effect of the current was most noticeable being well up to its strength of two knots.

4. At 2200L on Friday 2nd, TORRENS passed HMAS OVENS off Sandy Cape. OVENS was also on passage to the Far East and this was the first episode in a"tortoise and hare" event that was to last until Singapore.

5. All clocks were retarded to Zone K at 1830L on Saturday 3rd.

6. At 0900K on Sunday 4th, TORRENS berthed starboard side to in berth No. 6, Townsville harbour. The ship fuelled to capacity but the twenty-four hours stop was marred by one and a half inches of rain falling. However 886 local residents braved the afternoon's very heavy downfalls to visit the ship. Warm hospitality was extended by locally based Army and RAAF units. Of all the sport arranged the only event which could take place was a water polo match where the ship's team was defeated 10-2 by a very strong Army side.

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7. TORRENS cast off and proceeded out of harbour at 0900K on Monday 5th. A Neptune aircraft from No. 10 Squadron RAAF, joined for exercises in the afternoon. Communication and radar trials were carried out with TORRENS participating in a joint exercise. Additionally, although Neptunes are not normally used for this purpose, an offer was accepted and a valuable AA tracking exercise took place for a period of one hour.

8. The ship entered Adolphus channel at 0315K and transited TORRES Strait from 0400K-0630K on Wednesday 7th in driving rain and restricted visibility. TORRENS cleared Gannet passage at about 0715K and course and speed were set to join rendezvous with HMAS OVENS at 1400K. A Casex E-3 was carried out followed by a modified and shortened E-1 finishing at about 1600. Visibility was poor in rain squalls with a force 5 wind from the west and rising seas which precluded a planned boat transfer of mail and stores. TORRENS took station on OVENS starboard beam at 80 feet and a modified jackstay transfer of fresh provisions and mail was carried out. The locally invented rig was designed to operate from the masthead of TORRENS to the top of the submarine fin. This allowed all the work in transferring over 3501bs of stores to be carried out from TORRENS as few men could work in the limited space of the submarine conning tower. From the ship-handling aspect, TORRENS and OVENS lay alongside each other very comfortably at eleven knots, sixty feet apart with wind and sea on TORRENS disengaged bow. After an interesting and varied afternoon the two ships parted company at 1715K, TORRENS shaping course for Cape Wessel and OVENS for the Wetar Strait.

9. All clocks were retarded to Zone IK at 1815K, HMAS ADVANCE, on passage for the Gulf of Carpentaria, was encountered at about 2130 on Wednesday 7th.

10. At 1000IK on Thursday 8th, TORRENS berthed starboard side to the General Cargo Wharf in Gove harbour. Although it was high water at the time, a surprisingly strong southerly set off the wharf was experienced. Subsequent enquiries of the harbour master and chief pilot confirmed that this was by no means an unusual occurrence. A party of 24 officials and wives from the town, nearby mission as well as senior personnel of NABALCO were entertained to drinks and buffet lunch in the wardroom. Thus the RAN proved to be the first outside source to extend hospitality in the three years since extensive construction commenced on this project. Bus tours for one hundred and twenty of the ship's company were arranged to see the alumina plant, township and mining area. Meanwhile 1200 visitors including 200 children from the YIRRKALA Aboriginal Mission visited the ship and looked over the departmental displays. The ship's company greatly enjoyed the short visit to Gove and those who toured were much impressed by what had been achieved by a combination of technical competence and "can do" attitude. It should be remembered however that fuel can only be supplied by road tankers. Basketball and soccer representatives chosen from the four thousand population proved too strong for ship's teams and matches were lost 45-17 and 4-2 respectively.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

11. At 1730K, the ship cast off and proceeded along the recommended track toward Darwin, rounding Cape Wessel at about 2345IK on Thursday 8th. After transiting the Dundas and Clarence Straits, TORRENS berthed port side to Fort Hill Wharf at 1000IK on Saturday 10th to make a final twenty-four hour fuelling stop in Australia.

12. At 1000IK on Sunday 11th, the ship cast off and proceeded on the final leg of the passage to Singapore. Fine weather during the following few days enabled painting of the weather decks to be progressed satisfactorily.

13. All clocks were retarded to Zone HI at 1830 on Monday 12th.

14. At 0800HI on Wednesday 14th rendezvous was made with HMAS [illegible] at the southern end of Lombok Strait. Whilst the two ships lay stopped in close proximity to each other, I and nominated officers transferred by boat for a turnover. This being completed and transfer of a few stores and foreign currency having been accomplished, the two ships parted company at about 0945HI.

15. All clocks were retarded to Zone GH at 1830 on Thursday 15th. Hence forward, all times are Zone GH.

16. The remainder of the passage passed without incident, the route taken being via the Sapaudi and Curimata Straits. At 0900 on Saturday 17th, TORRENS passed Beaulieu Shoal Buoy and proceeded to berth starboard side to in berth No. 6, ANZUK Naval Basin. COMANZUKNAV, Commodore S.W. CLAYDEN, DSC, observed the arrival from his barge, and his staff officers boarded on berthing. At 1130 I called on COMANZUKNAV.

17. At 1000, HMS LYNX berthed alongside TORRENS port side, casting off and proceeding at 0800 on Sunday 18th.

18. A full sporting programme was arranged for the weekend. As an overture, TORRENS defeated OTAGO's Colts team at rugby on Saturday 17th. On Sunday 18th and Monday 19th TORRENS and HMS BRIGHTON were contestants in a six sport inter-ship competition for the Commodore's Cup trophy. In the event, the contest resulted in a draw with TORRENS winning basketball, golf and rugby, thereby winning the Seaclean trophy for the latter sport. BRIGHTON was the victor in squash, hockey and soccer and therefore Commodore CLAYDEN decided that the two ships should engage in deciding matches at volleyball, swimming and tug-o-war on Sunday 4th March, this being the next occasion when both ships will be in Singapore.

19. At 0900 on Tuesday 20th, TORRENS cast off and proceeded to exercise in accordance with the Singapore Weekly Practice Programme No. 8/73. The first serial, a Casex C2 required TORRENS to rendezvous with HMS ANDROMENA in a position some eighty miles from Johore Shoal buoy at 1430. For this reason and to gain maximum benefit from the serial, fast routeing speed was exceeded whilst on passage.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

Details are at Annex A. Additionally, a Medical Officer, Surgeon Lieutenant P. LAVERICK, RN embarked for passage to ANDROMENA who required him to examine a sailor suffering from a papular rash. Rendezvous was made at 1430 and the medical officer transferred by boat. Following this, the two ships continued with the Casex until 1715, when OVENS surfaced and received ANDROMENA's medical officer and patient for subsequent passage to Singapore. The two frigates then steamed south to fuel from RFA TIDESURGE following which a Casex A5/A2 was carried out with OVENS. ANDROMENA detached to proceed independently, while OVENS returned to Singapore.

20. On Wednesday 21st, having made rendezvous at 0645, COMANZUKNAV transferred to TORRENS from TIDESURGE by light jackstay. TIDESURGE was then detached while TORRENS proceeded for the Pulau Aur naval gunfire support range. Having steamed around the target buoys and politely persuaded the numerous fishing craft to retire to a safe distance, the range was opened and a very successful shoot was carried out. At 1300 that afternoon, TORRENS and TIDESURGE were again in company for a board and towex. This serial, too, proved successful with TIDESURGE making a very docile tow. Both ships reached a speed of just under ten knots through the water. Following the towex, COMANZUKNAV was transferred back to TIDESURGE by boat. TORRENS then proceeded to Pulau Aur to embark the NGS spotting team before proceeding in accordance with the WPP.

21. At 0830 on Thursday 22nd, TORRENS secured starboard side to TIDESURGE who was at anchor in Telok Tekek bay, Pulau Tioman. Both ship's companies enjoyed a day's banyan with a barbeque lunch on the beach. TORRENS cast off and proceeded at 1830, both ships having to make independent passage to Penang.

22. In accordance with the WPP, the NGS spotting team was disembarked to an MFV off Johore Shoal buoy at 0730 on Friday 23rd. The time of this event had been advanced half an hour at my request, nevertheless it was still necessary to exceed fast routeing speed for a period in order to ensure arrival at Penang in accordance with the programme. Details are at Annex A.

23. Passage of the Singapore and Malacca Straits was accomplished without incident. A profusion of fishing craft were evident in the vicinity of Raffles Lighthouse and the usual multitude of super tankers in both straits.

24. Rendezvous was made with HMS LYNX and HMNZS OTAGO at 0700 on Saturday 24th. As ships were entering harbour in a formed state it was apparent that TIDESURGE had anchored outside the six fathom line, some fifteen miles from man of war anchorage, and was awaiting arrival of a pilot and the afternoon high water. The destroyer escorts proceeded into harbour via the North Channel and at 0904 TORRENS anchored in man of war anchorage.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
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25. RFA TIDESURGE entered harbour at 1315 at high water and proceeded to anchor in man of war anchorage. She was to weigh and proceed under similarly favourable tidal conditions at 1600 on Sunday 25th. HMAS OVENS berthed alongside Sweltenham Wharf at 1745.

26. An offical cocktail party was held onboard the forecastle of HMS LYNX at 1830 on Saturday 24th, at which the Captain and four officers of each ship acted as hosts. LYNX was the obvious choice for venue because of the availability of her forecastle awning.

27. Although necessarily short, the visit to Penang was enjoyed by the ship's company. A full sporting programme was arranged and in an exciting rugby match, TORRENS defeated Penang All Blues by 30 points to 9.

28. TORRENS, LYNX and OTAGO weighed and proceeded in company at 0730 on Monday 26th for Exercise Penangex. This was an exercise scheduled to occupy three phases over the period 26th February to 2nd March. Phases one and three programmed for the 26th February and the 2nd March were to be devoted to aircraft strikes, splash target firings and air raid reporting exercises. Phase two was to involve transit by TIDESURGE and her escort along a predetermined track while exposed to attack by HMAS OVENS.

29. Phase one took place as programmed, commencing with a strike by four Mirage jets at 0930. Following this, TORRENS streamed a splash target and OTAGO took station for flank markings. Between 1000 and 1100 skilful and accurate rocket firings were carried out by four Tebuan aircraft of the RMAF. The splash target was then recovered and ships steamed in company on a triangular route which ensured that they were never further than eighteen miles from the designated position for Phase one. Nevertheless, even with this small displacement, the need for strike direction of single seat FGA aircraft in less than perfect visibility was apparent during the day.

30. Phase one ended at 1600 on Monday 26th, after which ships steamed westwards into the North Malacca Strait area to rendezvous with TIDESURGE at 2200 and commence Phase two.

31. Escorts replenished from TIDESURGE commencing at 0900 on Tuesday 27th. The first submarine attack occurred shortly after. A further attack took place that afternoon on completion of which HMS LYNX detached to proceed in accordance with previous orders for Singapore.

32. On Wednesday 28th, OTAGO also detached in order to proceed to Singapore to effect repairs to her 177M sonar which had become defective. Thus the end of the month found TORRENS and TIDESURGE engaged in the final period of PENANGEX. Phase three was cancelled by COMANZUKNAV and the exercise would conclude with an Ikara firing by TORRENS. Hopes were high for success and they were to be justified.

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...../6.

It has been a fairly rigorous month at sea for the ship with seven nights spent in harbour, but a most valuable one, which has succeeded in shaking down the new members of the ship's company to form an efficient team with the old hands. Some success has been gained on the sporting field and this has helped to contribute to a satisfactory state of morale. Much attention has been given to providing interests during spare time and dog watches when not in company, have been occupied variously from a boomerang making competition, to a departmental kite flying contest. Divisional officers have had several short sessions counselling their sailors on "drugs", "attitude to Asians", and "customs regulations", as well as answering many questions particularly from younger members. The health and conduct of the ship's company are good and the welfare committee has met during the month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

H P Berger

(H.P. BERGER)
COMMANDER RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: Annexes 'A', 'B', 'C'

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

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Annex 'A' to the Commanding Officer, HMAS TORRENS'
letter 1.16.2 dated 5th March, 1973

STEAMING ANNEX

Distance steamed during the month	6465.6
Hours underway during the month	491.6
Distance teamed since commissioning	81967.4
Hours underway since commissioning	5818.3

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour:

a. February 20th - Three hours at an average speed of 20 knots to comply with WPP 08/73 and rendezvous with HMS ANDROMEDA.

b. February 23rd - Seven hours at an average speed of 20 knots to comply with WPP 08/73 and ANZUKMOV 2/73.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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Annex 'B' to the Commanding Officer, HMAS TORRENS'
letter 1.16.2 dated 5th March, 1973.

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. AIO & TAS

Casex E1 - 1
Casex E3 - 1
Casex C2 - 1
Casex A5/A2 - 1
Pingex (Triplane Target) - 1
Internal Plotting Exercise - 1
Penangex - 1 day AAW exercise and 48 hours freeplay ASW
Radar Checks - 1 with SP2H from 10 Squadron RAAF Townsville

2. SEAMANSHIP & NAVIGATION

Blind Pilotage - 8
Light Jackstay - 1 (with RFA) - 1 (modified with submarine)
RAS (Fuelling) - 2
Splash Target Streamed - 1
Seaboat Drills - 2
Board/Towex - 1

3. COMMUNICATIONS

EWX3 - 1
EWX7 - 2 (10 hours total)
EWX10 - 2
EWX22 - 4
EWX23 - 3

One Radio Communication Exercise with a SP2H from 10 Squadron RAAF Townsville

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

4. GUNNERY

NGSFX - 1

0.5" Machine Gun Firings - 1

GDX - 4 (during Phase One of Panangex)

AATX - 1 (with SP2H from 10 Squadron RAAF Townsville)

5. DIVING

Day Exercises - 3

6. NBCD

Minor NBCD Exercises - 3

NBCD Communications Exercise - 1

Monitoring Team Exercise - 1

Emergency/Leaving Ship Stations - 1

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

Annex 'C' to the Commanding Officer, HMAS TORRENS'
letter 1.16.2 dated 5th March, 1973.

ASW WEAPON FIRING ANNEX

N I L

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

Annex 'D' to the Commanding Officer, HMAS TORRENS'
letter 1.16.2 dated 5th March, 1973.

COMMANDING OFFICERS OF FOREIGN SHIPS MENTIONED IN THE BODY OF THE REPORT

HMS ANDROMEDA	Captain A.A.R. WEIR, R.N.
HMNZS OTAGO	Commander A.J.L. TYRRELL, R.N.Z.N.
HMS LYNX	Commander C.H. LAYMAN, R.N.
RFA TIDESURGE	Captain C.S.B. IRWIN, DSO, DSC, RD

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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FILE 18/6/4115

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings MARCH 1973

AS(NS) 6.4/5.

D of O 1/5 Exercises in ANZUK area. Visit to Hongkong.

DCNS GRG 1/5 Para 7 - TERRA NOVA - HMCS. - NON 5 Power!

CNS RD 3/5

~~CNP~~

CNPS 9/5

CNSW 10/5

SECRETARY 9/6 5

C of S 7/5

~~CNO (Capt)~~ B 11/5

DPR 8/5

DDO 9/5 23.5.73

AS(NS) (NS)5

Paras 21 & 22

NOTES: A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.

B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.

C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.

D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

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30/7/73

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 4115

RECEIVED
27 APR A.M.

Telephone:
350444 CMR

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A F. 1/16/58

26th April, 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1973

1. Forwarded.

2. Separate action is being taken with regard to the investigation referred to in paragraph 17 of this report.

(A.M. Synnot)
Rear Admiral
Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure:

HMAS TORRENS Report 1/16/2 dated 4th April 1973

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

1.16.2

RESTRICTED

HMAS TORRENS
at Nagasaki.

4th April, 1973.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. Australian Fleet.

For Information:

The Commander,
ANZUK Naval Forces,
Singapore.

The Commodore Hong Kong,
HMS TAMAR,
Hong Kong.

The Commander,
3rd Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of March, 1973.

2. The first nineteen days of the month were occupied by an intensive period of exercises and weapon training in the Malacca Strait and Singapore practice areas. This was followed by a ten day self maintenance period in Hong Kong and finally the end of March saw TORRENS on passage to Japan.

3. On Thursday 1st March, TORRENS and RFA TIDESURGE (Captain C.S.B. IRWIN, DSO, DSC, R.D., RFA) were engaged in the final day of EXERCISE PENANGEX. Phase Three, programmed to take place on Friday 2nd, had been cancelled when it became necessary for HMNZS OTAGO (Commander A.J.L. TYRRELL R.N.Z.N.) to proceed to Singapore to effect repairs to her 177M sonar. Consequently, it remained for TORRENS to fuel from TIDESURGE prior to proceeding to rendezvous with OVENS for an IKARA firing. The start position for the latter event was shifted thirty miles south in order to shorten the passage distance to Singapore for both units. Rendezvous

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

was made at 0945GH and then followed a frustrating prelude to the actual firing as TORRENS attempted to gain and hold contact with the submarine at safety depth and a strong layer at 120 feet. In an attempt to overcome this, OVENS came to a depth of 120 feet, diving to 200 feet for the actual firing which took place at 1150GH. The firing range was in excess of 4000 yards and was considered very successful. The torpedo surfaced correctly and recovery quickly completed, OVENS and the co-operating LRMR aircraft were detached while TORRENS set course and speed for Singapore. It was now necessary to decide upon the time of arrival at Singapore. At below fast routeing speed, it would not be possible to arrive at the Ammunition Sub-depot in time to complete ammunitioning prior to close of work there at 1600GH on Friday 2nd. The ship was programmed to store alongside in ANZUK Naval Basin a.m. Saturday 3rd and HMS BRIGHTON (Commander J.M. PORTER, R.N.) was due to ammunition a.m. Monday 5th, when TORRENS should sail for weapon training. For these reasons, I decided to adjust speed throughout the passage in order to berth at the ammunition wharf by 1500 on Friday 2nd.

4. Passage was made without incident and at 1450GH on Friday 2nd, TORRENS berthed port side to ASD wharf, Singapore. Ammunition was embarked in excellent time by 1535 and at 1550 the ship cast off and proceeded to berth starboard side to on OTAGO at 1620GH.

5. Sunday 4th saw the final deciding events in the Commodores Cup Challenge between TORRENS and HMS BRIGHTON. Initially the ships had reached deadlock on Monday 19th February after completing the normal six sport contest and achieving a three all tie. In these, the deciding events, TORRENS lost at tug-o-war but won volleyball and the swimming and thus gained possession of the coveted trophy. The contest and its successful outcome was very beneficial to morale and has helped to foster a "chummy ship" relationship between BRIGHTON and TORRENS which it is hoped will endure.

6. At 0900GH on Monday 5th, TORRENS cast off and proceeded down Johore Strait for the Singapore practice areas. OTAGO having joined, the two ships commenced exercising in accordance with the weekly practice programme at 1230GH. A list of exercises carried out during the week is incorporated in the monthly exercise summary at Annex B. Other units with whom TORRENS exercised included HMNZS OTAGO, HMCS TERRA NOVA and HM Ships BRIGHTON, YARNTON (Commander W. KELLY, R.N. PCS 56) and MONKTON. In the later part of the week, OOW manoeuvres and a gun direction exercise were carried out with the units mentioned above and the patrol boats, INDEPENDENCE, DARING, FREEDOM and SOVEREIGNTY of the Singapore Maritime Forces. The R.N. Fleet NBCD Team joined the ship by boat from BRIGHTON on Thursday 8th and remained with the ship until p.m. Friday 9th. A major NBCDX was carried out and the assistance of this very experienced team was most beneficial.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

RCDIG1072999

7. RFA TIDESURGE had been unable to take part in the Weekly Practice Programme owing to a main engine defect. This had far reaching implications on the programme and it proved unfeasible to adhere to the previous plan whereby TORRENS would have spent the weekend at Pulau Tioman prior to commencement of the tactex - Exercise BRIGHTWATER p.m. Sunday 11th. Accordingly, following completion of exercises programmed for the morning of Friday 9th, TORRENS, OTAGO and TERRA NOVA proceeded in company, under TORRENS orders, to berth in ANZUK Naval Basin at 1710GH.

8. Fuelling was accomplished p.m. Saturday 10th March whilst during the forenoon of the same day a briefing was held for the Blue Naval Forces involved in BRIGHTWATER at the ANZUK operations room. The concept of the exercise postulated the invasion of Malaya by a hostile power (Orange) with the blue defensive line established in the vicinity of Kuantuan. Blue naval forces were to escort an auxiliary from anchorage at Pulau Tioman along a nominated track while exposed to attack by submarine, aircraft, surface vessels and fast patrol boats. TIDESURGE, who was to have simulated the high value target was not expected to be available until the final stages of the exercise owing to her still extant main machinery defect.

9. HMS ANTRIM (Captain D.A. LORAM, MVO, R.N.) OTC Blue Naval Forces, having suffered a dieso spillage in her boiler-room, was unable to sail before 1000GH on Sunday 11th. Accordingly, TORRENS, OTAGO and BRIGHTON sailed at 0830GH and proceeded in company under TORRENS orders, to anchor in formation in accordance with the exercise instruction, in Telok Tekek, Pulau Tioman at 1515GH. ANTRIM anchored at 1615, having been preceded by YARNTON and MONKTON, the remaining elements of the Blue Naval Forces. Ships assumed AWKWARD State 3 at 1845 and a very successful multi-ship exercise against underwater swimmers was carried out from 1900-2200. The "enemy" were provided by the Royal Malaysian Navy Clearance Diving Team.

10. At 0345GH on Monday 12th, TORRENS, OTAGO and BRIGHTON weighed and proceeded for departure screen operations. The initial track lay close to the islands of Pulau Pemanggil and Pulau Aur and predictably this led to spirited FPB actions throughout the day. Blue OTC's well conceived departure plan thwarted the initial attacks by ORANGE and OTAGO and TORRENS could claim three FPB's sunk between them before breakfast.

11. From Monday 12th to Thursday 15th, the task group proceeded along its planned track. TORRENS remained as part of the screening force except for the period 1830GH on Monday 12th to 0600GH on Tuesday 13th, when with BRIGHTON, the ship became ORANGE for an interesting SAG action.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

12. In general, EXERCISE BRIGHTWATER was of excellent value, providing good training in a multi-threat environment with generally ample activity and "in contact time" enhanced by good sonar conditions.

13. TIDESURGE rejoined the Task Group at 1900GH on Thursday 15th in the vicinity of Pulau Aur and TORRENS was ordered to refuel at 2130GH. At 2315GH the ship detached from the Task Group on the orders of the OTC and shaped course northward for Hong Kong.

14. Passage to Hong Kong was made without incident. Initially, calm weather was experienced but from the evening of Friday 16th as the ship made its way northwards, the moderate winds and rising seas occasioned by the still strong North-East Monsoon were readily apparent.

15. All clocks were advanced one half hour to Zone H(-8) at 2345GH on Saturday 17th.

16. At 1000H on Monday 19th, TORRENS berthed port side to the North Wall berth in Victoria Basin, Hong Kong. I called on Commodore J.K. STEVENS, R.N., the Commodore Hong Kong at 1130H and on the Commissioner for Australia, Mr Ivor BOWDEN at 1415H.

17. At 0130H on Tuesday 20th, a flood was experienced in the diesel generator compartment and due to water rising to approximately 8 inches above the deck plates, it flowed into the forward switchboard. Power was lost throughout the ship due to two circuit breakers short-circuiting. Soon after it was restored, the two compartments were pumped out. Damage was caused to two hand operated circuit breakers and associated busbar contacts. This incident which is the subject of a separate report is considered to have been caused by a person or persons unknown, tampering with either the bilge eductor or diesel circulating water valve. At my request, the circumstances were investigated by personnel of the British Army Special Investigation Branch.

18. Commodore STEVENS returned my call at 1200H on Friday 23rd. An official cocktail party was held onboard at 1830 that evening, the principal guest being Mr BOWDEN, the Commissioner for Australia.

19. Throughout the period of the ships stay in Hong Kong, excellent assistance was received from the Fleet Maintenance Unit. Their willingness to help, the good workmanship of their shop and the very effective liaison for the few small contract jobs, assisted the maintainers onboard and made this a most beneficial maintenance period.

20. The ship's company, too, greatly valued their ten day stay in Hong Kong. It was the first real stretch of harbour time since mid January and came at a most opportune time after a period of intensive exercising and long sea passages. If spirits were occasionally rather high during the first few days, the initial exuberance wore off, and many appreciated the sporting events arranged and the chance to enjoy Hong Kong's shopping opportunities.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

21. The Woodward Report presentation was given by the Personnel Liaison Team on 22nd/23rd March. The opportunity had been taken on passage from Singapore for a series of five one hour presentations to Officers and Ship's Company by my Supply Officer and CPOWTR, and as a result, several questions arose which the Personnel Liaison Team were able to answer at the formal presentations. The reaction to the new system, generally speaking, has been satisfactory although this may be somewhat coloured as the result of the continuing sea-going allowance in the case of TORRENS personnel. The lack of an option to live out for single members has met with some criticism.

22. Whilst the wide-ranging statutory implications of the report are apparent, the report can only have its full effect if the payment of arrears is effected quickly. Some members of this ship's company inspite of counselling emphasising caution, have hopefully planned their ANZUK service purchases on payment before returning to Australia.

23. At 1000H on Thursday 29th, TORRENS cast off and proceeded on passage for Japan. Visibility was poor in Talthong Channel and remained so throughout the day. Multitudes of junks were as usual, encountered on passage.

24. All clocks were advanced one hour at 2330H on Friday 30th to Zone I(-9).

25. The end of the month found TORRENS on passage through the Yellow Sea toward Nagasaki. Morale onboard is high and all are looking forward to the visit to Japan. Conduct has been satisfactory and the welfare committee has met during the month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

H Berger

(H.P. BERGER.)
COMMANDER, RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

FLAG OFFICER CO...M
9 APR 1973
H.M. AUSTRALIAN ...

Enclosures: Annexes A, B and C

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

Annex 'A' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 4th April, 1973.

STEAMING ANNEX

Distance steamed during the month	6089.7
Hours underway during the month	371.4
Distance steamed since commissioning	88057.1
Hours underway since commissioning	6189.7

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour:

a. 1st/2nd March - 18 hours at an average speed of 23 knots, 4 hours at an average speed of 22 knots and 1 hour at an average speed of 20 knots, whilst on passage from Exercise PENANGEX to Singapore for reasons expressed in paragraph 3 of the report.

b. 11th March - 4 hours at an average speed of 21 knots in order to comply with COMANZUKNAV Exercise Instruction 2/73 (Exercise BRIGHTWATER) and HMS ANTRIM signals 100722Z March, 1973 and 101615Z March, 1973.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

Annex 'B' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 4th April, 1973.

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. SEAMANSHIP AND NAVIGATION

RAS (L) - 2
Blind Pilotage - 4
Formation Anchorage - 1
Towex - 1
Jackstay Transfer - 1
OOW Shiphandling Drills - 1
OOW RAS Approaches - 1
OOW "Corpen November" Exercise - 1
OOW Manoeuvres - 1

2. AIO AND TAS

JRRX - 2
NEX - 1
INTEX - 1
CASEX A3 - 1
CASEX A4 - 1
CASEX C2 - 1
CASEX E-10 - 1
Multi-Ship Operation Awkward - 1
Tactical Freeplay Exercises - 98 hours practical sonar operating

3. GUNNERY

AATFX - 3
SUTF - 1
GDX - 6 } Exercise BRIGHTWATER
FPBX - 6 }
NEX - 2 }

...../2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

4. COMMUNICATIONS

EWX2	-	1
EWX5	-	1
EWX6	-	1
EWX7	-	3
EWX22	-	3
EWX23	-	2
EWX14	-	2
EWX15	-	2

NAVCOMEX 251	-	8
401	-	10
402	-	2
455	-	2
657	-	2
404	-	1

5. DIVING

Operation Awkward	-	1
Day Exercises	-	2
Night Exercises	-	2

6. NBCD

Major NBCDX	-	2
Communications Exercises	-	1
Minor NBCDX	-	1
Action Stations Exercised	-	3
Operation Awkward	-	1

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

Annex 'C' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 4th April, 1973.

ASW WEAPON FIRING ANNEX

Live Mortar Firing	-	One of two salvoes
Ikara Firing	-	One Practice MK44 Torpedo

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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FILE 18/6/4173.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings APRIL '73

AS(NS) 23/5.

D of O 24/5 Visit to Japan, fuelling stop Hong Kong, Singapore.

DCNS

CNS

CNP 29/5

CNTS 29/5

CNSW 31/5

SECRETARY 1/6

C of S 5/6.

DPR D 5/6

D of O

AS(NS) (NS55) 14/6

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D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

21/5/73

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 4173

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Telephone :KF
350444

18 MAY A.M
NAVY

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A.F. 1/16/58

17th May, 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1973

1. Forwarded.

2. The circumstances of the power failure reported in paragraph 17 are being investigated.

(A.M. Synnot)
Rear Admiral
Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure:

HMAS TORRENS Report 1/16/2 dated 5th May, 1973.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

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1216.2

HMAS TORRENS
At Singapore.
5th May, 1973

Flag Officer Commanding,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

For information:

The Commander,
ANZUK Naval Forces,
Singapore.

The Commodore Hong Kong,
HMS TAMAR,
Hong Kong.

The Commander,
Third Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of April, 1973. All times are Zone India (-9) until 1830 on Thursday, 12th.

2. The first ten days of April were occupied by port visits in Japan, then after a short fuelling stop in Hong Kong, the ship proceeded to Singapore and remained there for the rest of the month.

3. Sunday 1st April found TORRENS on passage from Hong Kong to Nagasaki. At 0600, when twelve miles from the harbour entrance the ship stopped to allow divers to fit sea-water inlet gratings. Despite the fact that diving operations commenced at sunrise and in a water temperature of 16C(60F), the evolution at this first attempt of fitting eight gratings was within forty-five minutes. By 0700 the ship was underway and proceeded into harbour, having embarked a pilot on advice from ASA Tokyo off the island of IO JIMA. At 0900 TORRENS berthed at Dejima Wharf. It being a Sunday, no particular ceremonial took place on this the first day of the ship's visit to Nagasaki. The Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force destroyer escort CHIKUGO entered harbour at 1100 and berthed immediately ahead of TORRENS. Her Commanding Officer, Commander S. OKADA called on me at 1215 and crests were exchanged. CHIKUGO was engaged on family day cruises from SASEBO and NAGASAKI and came and went from her berth at intervals during the afternoon of Sunday 1st, before final departure at 1700.

4. The ship was opened to public inspection from 1400-1700. 1276 visitors came onboard.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

5. Monday 2nd was the start of the Japanese Business year. At 1300 the ceremony of presentation of flowers on behalf of the Prefecture, City of Nagasaki and Chamber of Commerce and Industry took place on the quarterdeck. Later my Executive Officer and I paid the necessary official calls on local authorities. A list of calls paid is contained at Annex D. That evening an official reception took place on board from 1800-2000.

6. It was necessary for the ship to vacate her berth alongside on Tuesday 3rd, in order to make way for the P & O liner S.S. ARCADIA. After careful consideration of the navigational and financial implications of the move I decided to employ local tugs directed by ship's officers i.e., without a local pilot and to move cold to the new berth which was between head and stern buoys some four cables to the west of Dejima wharf. This would result in a saving of some two hundred dollars (Australian), this being the difference between the cost of tugs and expenditure on fuel, and avoid the necessity to flash up and shut down on the same day. Accordingly at 0600, as dawn was breaking, in light airs and slack water, the move was accomplished without incident, in time for the ARCADIA to make an unobstructed approach to her berth at 0645. At 1745 following ARCADIA's departure, TORRENS slipped and was moved cold to berth starboard side to at Dejima wharf.

7. A party of forty-eight orphan children were shown round the ship on the afternoon of Wednesday 4th, and a party tea was served in the cafeteria. This visit appeared to have been a great success.

8. The following day from 1400-1700, the ship was again open to public inspection. 658 visitors came on board.

9. At 0900 on Friday 6th TORRENS cast off and proceeded after a very successful visit to Nagasaki. At first the comparatively high prices ashore had come as an unexpected shock to some members of the ship's company. But as the visit progressed, the genuine friendliness and pro-Australian attitude of the local people manifested itself and the ship's company greatly enjoyed their first visit for many to a Japanese port. Daily bus tours for forty-five persons took place from Monday 2nd to Wednesday 4th and were greatly appreciated and well attended. The weather was favourable and the cherry blossom was in full bloom.

10. At 0830 on Saturday 7th, following an uneventful passage along the west coasts of Kyushu and Honshu, rendezvous was made with a JMSDF patrol boat outside the entrance of Maizuru Wan. The Liaison Officer transferred, after which TORRENS entered the picturesque and unspoilt harbour. At 0915, when a mile and a half from berth, TORRENS stopped and waited while the JMSDF ships KIKUZUKI and KATORI cast-off and proceeded clear of the approach. The latter ship was wearing the flag of Rear Admiral Jikyo ISHINO, Commander of the Japanese Training Squadron.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

At 0936 under the eyes of a vast welcoming committee, numbering some sixty officers and men of the JMSDF, civilian dignitaries and a brass band, the ship berthed port side to in berth A-3. After securing, the customary presentation of flowers from the Mayor, President of the City Assembly and the President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry took place on the quarterdeck. On this occasion the flowers were received on behalf of the ship's company by me, a Chief Petty Officer and a junior sailor.

11. At 1100, after giving a short press conference in which I was assisted by Mr. J. Graham, Information Officer of the Australian Embassy, I and my Executive Officer proceeded to make the necessary official calls. A list of these is contained at Annex D.

12. The ship was opened to visitors from 1400-1700 and despite the fact that to the civilian community this was a working day 945 visitors came on board. An official reception, sponsored by the Mayor, and Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the Commanding Officer and officers took place at the "SHIRAITO" Japanese hotel from 1800-1930 that evening.

13. On Sunday 8th, the ship was open to visitors from 1400-1700. On this occasion, taking advantage of the fine weather and the holiday, 3,567 visitors were received on board. Although a large number, particularly in view of the fact that only one brow was available, the crowds were orderly and easy to control.

14. At 1200 on Monday 9th Vice Admiral Kiyonori KUNISHIMA, the Commandant of the Maizuru district, Mr. Yashusi SATANI the Mayor, the Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce, two JMSDF staff officers and the Australian Naval Attache came onboard for a luncheon.

15. Tuesday 10th, the day of the ship's departure, brought rain, fog and visibility of 2-4 cables. Despite this a large party of officers, including Vice Admiral KUNISHIMA, were present on the jetty at 0900 to see the ship depart speeded on her way by the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" from the naval brass band. The ship cleared harbour without incident but under full blind pilotage conditions.

16. The visit to Maizuru was again conspicucusly successful. TORRENS was the first Australian warship to enter the port since 1961 and accordingly received much attention from the JMSDF. Although a much smaller town than Nagasaki and therefore having far less attractions available, it made an interesting visit for the three day period spent there. Throughout the period 29th March - 13th April MRL 9 fixed service was operated with Hong Kong. This facility, together with B41 HK broadcast provided most satisfactory and successful communications. I feel that much of the credit for the success of the Japanese port visits was due to the excellent programmes, arrangements made and the personal interest shown by the Australian Defence and Naval Attache Captain F.E. IRVINE ADC RAN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

17. The poor visibility encountered while leaving Maizuru persisted generally throughout the passage to Hong Kong. At 0201 on Wednesday 11th a malfunction in the overspeed trip of "J" Turbo-Alternator occasioned a temporary loss of power supply to JUA displays, steering motors and navigations lights. Visibility at the time was low and fishing boats were known to be within one mile. Accordingly the ship stopped until all power had been restored some nine minutes later. Visibility improved from dawn and at 0830 with small craft visible at four miles, I considered it safe to proceed with a previously planned annual full power trial. From 0937 until 1137 full power was achieved and maintained with 222 rpm developing 29,291 shaft horsepower to achieve a log speed of 28 knots. This speed, somewhat lower than might be expected, is attributed to the ship being eight months out of dock and having spent some time in tropical waters. At 1530 a recovery firing trial was carried out, of two rounds from the left gun of the 4.5" turret. The necessary safety precautions as laid down were observed and the trial was successful.

18. All clocks were retarded one hour to zone Hotel (-8) at 1830 on Thursday 12th. All times are zone Hotel until 1815 on Friday 20th.

19. At 1730 on Friday 13th, the ship berthed starboard side to North Arm, Victoria Basin Hong Kong, for a long weekend fuelling stop in the return passage to Singapore.

20. On Monday 16th, I attended the Queens Birthday Parade in Victoria Park, Hong Kong and at 1630 a garden party held at Government House to celebrate the same occasion.

21. At 0810 on Tuesday 17th, TORRENS cast off and proceeded in company with HMS BRIGHTON as consort for the latter ship's inspection by the Captain, 4th Frigate Squadron. Visibility remained poor throughout the period that TORRENS was in company and this factor combined with the multitude of junks present added to the difficulties of carrying out a tactical exercise while remaining within colony waters. TORRENS was detached at 1030 and thereafter made passage to Singapore, experiencing gradually improving visibility and weather as the ship's latitude decreased.

22. All clocks were retarded one half hour at 1815H on Friday 20th. All times henceforth are zone GH (-7½).

23. After an uneventful passage and perfect conditions in the Singapore and Johore straits TORRENS berthed starboard side to in berth six, ANZUK Naval Basin, Singapore. Ahead lay the Easter weekend, a full sporting programme and a self maintenance period.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

24. On Tuesday 24th, TORRENS and OVENS engaged in a day-long eleven sport competition against 6 RAR for the Wells Trophy. The RAN ships were successful in Cricket, Volleyball and Basketball but were defeated in eight other sports. Once again, as has so often happened, strength of numbers told. Nevertheless results in individual sports were close and the contest provided keen and sportsmanlike competition with attendant gains in respect, understanding and friendship between the two services.

25. Together with other TORRENS officers and sailors I attended the ANZAC day dawn service at Kranji War Cemetery on Wednesday 25th. In this setting, the service was as usual appropriate and moving.

26. As the maintenance period progressed it was discovered that whitemetal fragments had become scattered across the forward end of the starboard main engine gear case. Immediate investigation and repair became necessary. (HMAS TORRENS DAU 230436Z APR 73 refers). Additionally the decision had been made to remove the misalignment between the starboard main turbine and gearbox which had been evident over the last eighteen months. Owing to this it became necessary to postpone the ship's departure from Singapore and cancel previously proposed visits to the Philippines. (COMANZUKNAV KNA 300814Z APR 73 refers).

29. As the month closed TORRENS was still alongside at ANZUK Naval Basin. Maintenance and repair are being progressed. Morale is high although some disappointment has been felt owing to the cancellation of forthcoming visits. Nevertheless a full programme of sporting and other activities, including a re-challenge for the Wells Trophy, has been arranged. Conduct has been satisfactory and the welfare committee has met during the month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
- 9 MAY 1973
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

(H.P. BERGER)
COMMANDER RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: Annexes A, B, C, D

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'A' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 DATED 5th MAY, 1973

STEAMING ANNEX

Distance steamed during the month	3489.5
Hours underway during the month	211.9
Distance steamed since commissioning	91,546.6
Hours underway since commissioning	6,401.6

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour:

NIL except as required for Annual Full Power Trial on Wednesday 11th.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'B' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 DATED 5th MAY, 1973

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. SEAMANSHIP AND NAVIGATION

Blind Pilotage	7
OOW Pilotage	1
OOW Shiphandling Drills	1

2. AIO and TAS

SAU peocedures exercise	1
SAG procedures exercise	1

3. GUNNERY

4.5" Receovery Firing Trial	1
0.5" Machine gun firing	1

4. COMMUNICATIONS

NAVCOMEX 250	2
251	2
252	3
451	2
652	1
EWX 2	1
3	8
7	8

5. DIVING

Day exercises	8
Night exercises	1

6. NBCD

Defence Stations, Action Stations, Emergency Stations, Leaving Ship Stations were exercised on passage.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'C' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 DATED 5th MAY, 1973

ASW WEAPON FIRING EXERCISE

NIL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'D' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 DATED 5th MAY, 1973

CALLS AND OFFICIAL ENTERTAINMENT IN NAGASAKI AND MAIZURU

1. NAGASAKI

a. The Commanding Officer called on the following officials on Monday 2nd April:

His Excellency the Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture - Mr. Kanechi KUBO

Vice Mayor of Nagasaki - Mr. TAKAHITA

President of Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Mr. Hirokichi YAMADA

Commanding Officer, JSDF Nagasaki Detachment - Colonel Hisashi MATJUZAKI

b. The Executive Officer called on the following officials on Monday 2nd April:

Chief, Nagasaki Police Station - Mr. Shigeru HARASAKI

Chief, Nagasaki Customs - Mr. Genji NOZAKI

Chief, Nagasaki Harbour Bureau - Mr. Shigeru YOSHITOMI

2. MAIZURU

a. The Commanding Officer called on the following officials on Saturday 7th May:

Commandant Maizuru District - Vice Admiral Kiyonori KUNISHIMA

Mayor of Maizuru - Mr. SATANI

President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Mr. WATANABE

Chief, Harbour Administration Office, Kyoto Prefecture - Mr. Masaui HIDACHI

Chief 8th District Maritime Safety Agency.

b. The Executive Officer called on the following officials on Saturday 7th May:

Port Captain and Chief of Maizuru, Maritime Safety Agency - Mr. Minoru KANZAKI

Chief, Higashi Maizuru Police - Mr. Yoshikazu MURAKAMI

Chief, Nishi Maizuru Police - Mr. Shyoichi UCHIDA

Chief Immigration

Chief Customs - Mr. Teruo SATO

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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FILE 18/6/4231

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings MAY 1973

~~AS(NS)~~ 1/25/6

~~D of O~~ 26/6 ANZUK SERVICE - P.14 ENCLOSE ROARING TWENTIES.

~~DGOP~~

DONS 26/6

~~CNS~~ 27/6

~~CNP~~ 27/7

CNTS 3/7

CNSW 4/7

SECRETARY 5/7

~~C of S~~ 9/7

DPR 10/7

~~D of O~~

~~AS(NS) (NS55)~~ 10/7

NOTES: A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.

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C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.

D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

22/6/73

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 4231

FIVE
22 JUN A.M.

Telephone: KF
350444

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A F. 1/16/58

20th June, 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1973

Forwarded.

(A.M. Synnot)
Rear Admiral
Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure: HMAS TORRENS Report 1/16/2 dated 5th June, 1973.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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1.16.2

HMAS TORRENS
at Singapore.

5th June, 1973.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. Australian Fleet.

For Information:

The Commander,
ANZUK Naval Forces.

The Commander,
3rd Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY, 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of May, 1973. All times are Zone Golf-Hotel (-7½) until 1815 on Tuesday 22nd.

2. The first eleven days of May were spent in Singapore hav ing the starboard and port misalignments between the main turbines and gearboxes removed. Then followed a short shakedown period at sea from 14th to 16th prior to leaving on the 21st for the visit to Bangkok and subsequent Exercise "Roaring Twenties", which lasted until the close of the month.

3. Wednesday 2nd May was the occasion of a visit to TORRENS by the Commander ANZUK Forces, Rear Admiral D.C. WELLS. CBE. That day, the ship's landing party departed for a three day course in jungle warfare joining D Company 6 RAR, at Asahan Jungle Training Centre in Malaysia.

4. At 0845 on Saturday 5th, eight ship's company from TORRENS joined with Australian Army and Air Force personnel at the Armada Club, Woodlands Base and met the Minister for Defence, The Honorable Lance Barnard M.P.

5. From Monday 7th to Wednesday 9th May inclusive, a Small Arms Course was conducted by 6 RAR for 20 sailors each day from TORRENS, to enable them to become familiar with the entire range of small arms available. An interesting added feature was a demonstration of light artillery which impressed all who attended the course. In the same

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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period the opportunity was taken for the ship's three A/S Air Controllers to experience an operational flight in a RAF Nimrod. On Friday 11th, a further opportunity to handle small arms occurred when the ship's Annual Rifle Course was held and attended by 4 officers and 36 sailors. At 1100 on that day, accompanied by the Commanding Officer of HMAS OVENS, Lieutenant Commander R.H. WOOLRYCH, RAN, I called on the Australian High Commissioner to Singapore, Mr. N.F. Parkinson.

6. During the time in Singapore besides progressing a lot of maintenance, as many persons as possible were involved in inter-mess sporting competitions ranging from soccer to darts. Ship's teams trained hard and on Thursday 10th, assisted by players from OVENS, engaged in the day long eleven sports competition against 6 RAR for the Wells Trophy. This time with the Battalion's numbers reduced by the absence of a Company on exercise and the numbers closer to parity, Navy turned the tables and won eight sports to three.

7. On Monday 14th, TORRENS cast off from the ANZUK Naval Basin and berthed alongside the Ammunition Stores Depot. On completion of topping up with surface practice shell, the ship proceeded to sea for a short weapon training period. After approximately two hours steaming, the starboard centre pinion forward bearing exhibited high temperature, the shaft was trailed then subsequently locked and inspection revealed the bearing metal was crushed and cracked. The shaft remained locked until return to Singapore on Wednesday 16th May, when the second spare bearing was machined and fitted, giving no further trouble. Despite the temporary handicap of steaming with one shaft locked, the two day period proved to be of value after an extended period in harbour. Amongst other exercises, the ship had a total of six hours good pinging on a Tri-plane target. An AAGDX was conducted followed by a successful Naval Gunfire Support firing off Pulau Aur.

8. On Monday 21st, the morning of departure for Bangkok, TORRENS embarked a number of large stores for transportation to Royal Navy Ships she was due to operate with during exercise "Roaring Twenties". In addition the NGS spotters team and equipment, the PTA flight, six PTA's plus equipment were embarked for passage to Sattahip. An officer, senior NCO and six soldiers from 6 RAR came onboard in exchange for six volunteer sailors who wished to become better acquainted with jungle warfare. The ship proceeded to sea from the ANZUK Naval Basin at 1200 and rendezvoused with HMCS TERRA NOVA at 1600 to carry out exercises for the first stage of TORRENS's northern transit. These included a light jackstay transfer, OOW RAS approaches, an illumination exercise which proved most successful for both ships and SAU procedures and datum approaches in conjunction with a Nimrod aircraft. TERRA NOVA took her departure shortly after midnight over the wreck of HMS REPULSE.

9. Arrival in Sattahip, after an incident free passage was at 1230 on 23rd May. Having off loaded the spotters team,

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

PTA flight and the stores for transfer to other ships, TORRENS proceeded to the entrance of the Bangkok river and anchored at 1800 to place inlet gratings prior to negotiating the river passage to Bangkok the following forenoon.

10. The ship weighed anchor at 0600, embarked a pilot and commenced the passage to Klong Toey dolphins. Special Sea Dutymen remained closed up for three hours until TORRENS berthed port side to the dolphins at 0900. On arrival I paid calls on the Counsellor at the Australian Embassy, Mr. D. Goss and Rear Admiral Nipon Siritorn, representing the Commander-in-Chief, Royal Thai Fleet. That evening the ship held an official cocktail party onboard which marked the commencement of a visit, which proved popular with all onboard.

11. On Saturday 26th I attended the pre-sail conference at Sattahip for Exercise "Roaring Twenties". This maritime exercise, jointly planned by the Royal Thai Navy and Royal Navy was designed to progress training and co-operation between naval units of Thailand, Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

12. At 0900 Monday 28th May, TORRENS cast off and proceeded down river taking HMS BRIGHTON and HMS WASPERTON in company and anchored off the Bangkok Bar at 1150. Inlet gratings were removed then the short passage to Sattahip was commenced. The ship berthed starboard side to No.2 berth Deepwater Port at 1700. Leave was granted to the ship's company although as there was little entertainment ashore, the ship's company was encouraged to remain onboard by the showing of a double feature movie.

13. The following morning at 0730, TORRENS proceeded to sea for the commencement of exercise "Roaring Twenties". Also participating in the exercise were HM Ships ANTRIM, BRIGHTON and WASPERTON, HMNZS TARANAKI, three frigates, three patrol craft and a landing ship of the Royal Thai Navy. The main part of the exercise was a four day weapon training period, run as a serialised programme. The twelve ships were usually split into two multi-national groups controlled by ANTRIM and TORRENS. The two groups came together for the tactical phases which consisted of FPB night attacks and day attacks by Northrop F-5 aircraft of the Royal Thai Air Force.

14. Although difficulty was experienced in communicating with the Thai ships on the first day, as time progressed it became easier using radio, flag hoists and light. Considering the fact that the ships of the Royal Thai Navy usually only exercise together twice a year they performed well. The high standard of gunnery in visual aiming for surface and AA and the amount of firepower by the three Thai patrol craft of the LIULOM class was noteworthy. It was significant that in the scheduled serial, the PTA was shot down by direct hits from 20mm.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

15. The Prime Minister and Supreme Commander, Thanom Kittikachorn spent one day at sea during the exercise in HTMS TACHIN and witnessed Seacat firings from HMS ANTRIM. These firings were eventually made at a rock surface target as the range was consistently fouled for firing at PTA's.

16. With TORRENS' present deployment rapidly drawing to an end, morale is high with the prospect of soon returning home. The ship's company has been addressed on security matters during the month and the Welfare Committee has met. The conduct of the ship's company has been most satisfactory.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

H P Berger

(H.P. BERGER.)
COMMANDER, RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
18 JUN 1973
AUSTRALIAN FLEET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

Annex 'A' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 5th June, 1973.

STEAMING ANNEX

Distance steamed during the month	1888.1
Hours underway during the month	175.5
Distance steamed since commissioning	93434.7
Hours underway since commissioning	6577.1

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour - NIL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

Annex 'B' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 5th June, 1973.

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. Seamanship and Navigation

Blind Pilotage	6
OOW Pilotage	2
OOW RAS Approaches	1
Light Jackstay Transfers	3
RAS (Fuel)	2
OOW Manoeuvres	4

2. AIO and TAS

TACEX	2
ARRX	2
LAAWCX	1
JOINING & SAU Procedures	3
SCREENEX	3

3. GUNNERY

AAGDX	1
AATX/AAGDX	2
Gun Functioning Trial	1
Starshell Firing	1
SU Firing	1
NGSFX	1
ARC	1

4. COMMUNICATIONS

NAVCOMEX	202	6
	205	4
	207	4
	455	2
	501	3
	657	3
EWX	7	4
	13	1
	18	3

...../2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

5. DIVING

Day Exercises	4
Night Exercises	5

6. NBCD

Minor NBCDX	6
Communications Exercises	4

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

Annex 'C' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 5th June, 1973.

ASW WEAPON FIRING ANNEX

N I L

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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FILE 18/6/4266

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings JUNE 1973

AS(NS) 16/7.

D of O 18/7.

DGOP.

DCNS 18/7

CNS 23/7

CNP 27/7

CNTS 27/7

CNSW 25/7

SECRETARY 26/7

C of S 30/7

DPR 31.7

AS(NS) (NS55) 2/8/73

Completion of ANZUK assignment & return passage. Reciprocal visit & TRTE para 10. Successful visit to Adelaide.

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B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.

C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.

D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

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16/7/73

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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13 JUL P.M.
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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 4266

Telephone: KF
350444

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A F. 1/16/58

12th July, 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE 1973

Forwarded.

(A.M. Synnot)
Rear Admiral
Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure: HMAS TORRENS Report 1/16/2 dated 4th July, 1973.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

1.16.2

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HMAS TORRENS
at Sea.

4th July, 1973.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. Australian Fleet.

For Information:

The Commander,
ANZUK Naval Forces.

The Commander,
3rd Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE, 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of June, 1973. All times are Zone Golf(-7) until 2345 2nd June then all times are Zone Golf Hotel (-7½) unless otherwise indicated.

2. The month of June commenced with the final day of Exercise "Roaring Twenties", in company with ships of the British, New Zealand and Thai navies. During the days that followed this exercise, TORRENS returned to Singapore, in company with HMNZS TARANAKI and underwent a final self maintenance period prior to completion of the present ANZUK deployment. The return passage to Australia occupied the remainder of June, the month coming to a close with TORRENS at Adelaide.

3. On Friday 1st June, in the final stages of "Roaring Twenties", TORRENS conducted a combined Naval Gunfire Support Firing Exercise involving HMNZS TARANAKI, HMS WASPERTON and HTM Ships LUILOM, TONGPLUI, and SARASIN. Subsequent exercises on this day, involving the above ships were datum approaches, surface firings at a radio controlled "Seaflash" target and jackstay transfers. This, the final day of the exercise proved no less valuable than early stages and in fact greater ease in communicating with the Thai ships was experienced. TORRENS returned to number two berth, Deepwater Port at Sattahip that afternoon at 1500 and spent the final evening alongside prior to departure for Singapore the following morning.

4. The "Roaring Twenties" post exercise conference was conducted at 0800 on Saturday 2nd June at the Thai Navy Officers' Club at Sattahip, during which an outstanding summary was given by Captain G.A.F. Bower, R.N., Commanding Officer of HMS ANTRIM. Following this, at 1030, TORRENS and TARANAKI sailed in company for Singapore under TORRENS orders. The ensuing two day passage provided excellent opportunities for both ships to further the training of Sub Lieutenants with periods of OOW manoeuvres and RAS approaches. In addition, communication and electronic warfare as well as surface plotting exercises were carried out.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

5. At 1000 on Monday 4th June, TORRENS berthed alongside in the ANZUK Naval Basin, Singapore. TARANAKI berthed ten minutes later directly astern.

6. TORRENS remained in the ANZUK Naval Basin until 13th June, during which time self maintenance was progressed. The ship played many final sporting matches against local teams which had provided good competition in past months when the games had been the venue for increasing friendship. The ship's company also bid final farewells, both official and informal to the organisations and people who had contributed to making our deployment an enjoyable and successful one. On the evening of 8th June an Official Cocktail Party was held onboard in appreciation of assistance received during the previous four months from all who were invited.

7. At 0900 on Saturday 9th June, HMAS DIAMANTINA (Lieutenant Commander D.M. Davidson, RAN) steamed into the ANZUK Naval Basin and her officers and ship's company were warmly welcomed by their TORRENS counterparts. DIAMANTINA lent valuable support to our third and final Wells Trophy Challenge against 6 RAR which took place on Monday 11th June. With the Battalion at full strength again, 6 RAR only just managed to defeat the Navy teams in six sports to five.

8. On 11th June it became apparent that TORRENS scheduled visit to Surabaya would not eventuate due to diplomatic clearance not being obtained (ANA JAKARTA Message 110115Z June, 1973 refers). On Wednesday 13th, TORRENS sailed from the ANZUK Naval Basin in Singapore for the final time and headed directly towards Fremantle, passing through Gaspar Straits during the afternoon of 14th and Sunda Straits during the forenoon of 15th June. The weather conditions on passage were generally quite good, deteriorating however during the last thirty six hours to Fremantle until at 2100H on 19th June, the ship experienced Force 9 winds and rough seas.

9. Following a rather turbulent night, TORRENS berthed at Victoria Quay in Fremantle at 1000H on 20th June. Due to Surabaya being deleted from the ship's programme, arrival in Fremantle was brought forward two days. This was to enable TORRENS to take Junior Recruits to sea on 21st and 22nd June and thus gain an insight into life at sea in a modern warship. However, the daily running did not eventuate, as the adverse weather conditions persisted and the sea state worsened over the forty eight hours following our arrival. As a result the ship did not proceed to sea as planned, however a comprehensive programme for the Junior Recruits was arranged each day in addition to the opportunity of meeting the ship's company and learning a little of shipboard life.

10. Sixteen officers and senior sailors from TORRENS proceeded to HMAS LEEUWIN shortly after the ships arrival in Fremantle and were given a conducted tour of the establishment. The aim of the tour was to foster an understanding of LEEUWIN's role, capabalities and limitations, thus giving the officers and senior sailors in the fleet an indication of what to expect of a young sailor on his first sea posting. The improvement in facilities was most noticeable. This was also commented on by this ship's ex Junior Recruits who took the opportunity to call on their former Divisional Officers. During the ships stay in Fremantle, the high proportion of ex Junior Recruits who revisited their earlier sponsor families was noteworthy and indicated the success of the scheme.

...../3

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

12. At 1000H on Monday 25th June, TORRENS proceeded to sea with 56 Junior Recruits embarked. Two and a half hours at sea was planned to compensate for the two previously scheduled days suspended due to the inclement weather. TORRENS proceeded to area R136 where 4.5", 0.50 calibre and light machine gun demonstration firings were carried out. This was followed by the firing of one salvo of live mortars and one salvo of light. The latter were recovered and the ship steamed towards North Mole, where the Junior Recruits were transferred to workboats then TORRENS proceeded to Adelaide.

13. The passage to Adelaide continued without incident, with TORRENS experiencing a south-westerly swell but fair weather throughout. The ship's arrival at the Mobil Wharf at Port Adelaide was timed for 0830IK on 29th June, when refuelling took place prior to proceeding further upriver at 1030IK, to berth alongside number two McLaren Wharf at 1045IK.

14. During the short refuelling stop, with TORRENS berthed at the Mobil Wharf, I called on NOICSA, Commander P. Goldrick, RAN. At 0940 accompanied by Commander Goldrick, I called on His Excellency the Governor of South Australia, Sir Mark Oliphant, KBE. This call was officially returned at 1500 that afternoon by the ADC to the Governor.

15. On the afternoon of 29th June, an organised party of twenty four children and eight staff from Adelaide's Minda Home for Mentally Handicapped Children toured the ship. At 1830IK on the same evening an Official Cocktail Party was held onboard. The principal guest was the Minister for Repatriation and Assistant Minister for Defence, Senator the Honourable R. Bishop.

16. During the "ship open to visitors" period on the afternoon of Saturday 30th June, one thousand and twenty four members of the public looked over TORRENS. This number was more than trebled the following day, and showed that the ship's visit to Adelaide had generated considerable interest.

17. The month came to a close with TORRENS berthed at Port Adelaide. During June, Promotion Board, Parts 1 and 2 were conducted for promotion to Leading Hand, Petty Officer and Chief Petty Officer, with good results. In addition, Category Tests required for promotion have been progressed steadily within each department. Most Western Australian and South Australian natives among the ship's company have proceeded on mid-winter leave from their respective home ports.

18. At the completion of a five month deployment, the material state of the ship is excellent. Morale of the ship's company is particularly high and the conduct has been most satisfactory. It is pleasing to realize that there have been no warrant punishments since departing Australia. The health of those onboard is good and it is

...../4

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

considered that the physical fitness of the majority is infinitely better than on the ship's departure from Sydney. The Welfare Committee met during the month.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

(H.P. BERGER.)
COMMANDER, RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: Annex 'A' - Steaming Annex
Annex 'B' - Exercise Annex
Annex 'C' - ASW Weapon Firing Annex

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
6 JUL 1973
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED

Annex 'A' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 4th July, 1973.

STEAMING ANNEX

1.	Distance steamed during the month	4,517.2
2.	Hours underway during the month	324.0/60
3.	Distance steamed since commissioning	97,951.9
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	6,901.1/60

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour - NIL

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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Annex 'B' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 4th July, 1973.

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. Seamanship and Navigation

Blind Pilotage	2
OOW RAS Approaches	1
Light Jackstay Transfers	1
OOW Manoeuvres	2

2. AIO and TAS

TACEX	1
RIX/SPX B	1
Datum Approaches	1

3. Gunnery

NGSCX	1
NGSFX (TORRENS did not fire)	1
SU Firing (Demonstration)	1
50 calibre & AR demonstration Firing	1

4. Communications

NAVCOMEX 657	1
EWX 7	1
13	1

5. Diving

Day Exercises	4

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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Annex 'C' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2
dated 4th July, 1973.

ASW WEAPON FIRING ANNEX

Live Mortar Firing	1 Salvo
Light Mortar Firing	1 Salvo

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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FILE 18/6/4340

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings JULY 1973

AS(NS) 15/8.

~~D of O~~ 16/8

~~DGOP~~

~~DCNS~~ 16/8

~~CNS~~ 20/8

~~CNP~~ 24/8

~~CNTS~~ 24/8

~~CNSW~~ 27/8.

~~SECRETARY~~ 27-8

~~C of S~~ 23/8

~~DPR~~ 31/8

~~D of O~~

~~AS(NS) (NS55)~~ 4/9/73

Return from ANZUK area - via Adelaide SMP & leave.

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10/8/73

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 4340

13 AUG A.M.

Telephone: LMD
350444

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A.F. 1/16/58

10th August, 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1973

Forwarded.

(A.A. Willis)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure:
HMAS TORRENS Report 1.16.2 dated 3rd August, 1973

RESTRICTED

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED

HMAS TORRENS,
At Sydney.

3rd August, 1973

1.16.2

The Flag Officer Commanding,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

For information:

The Commander,
Third Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of July, 1973. All times are Zone IK(-9½) until 2345 on Tuesday 3rd July from when all times are Zone K(-10).

2. At the beginning of July TORRENS was berthed at No. 2 McLaren Wharf, Port Adelaide, for a weekend visit on returning to Australia from a five month ANZUK deployment. Following TORRENS' subsequent arrival in Sydney later in the first week of the month, the ship commenced a period of self-maintenance and mid-winter leave.

3. On Sunday 1st July at Port Adelaide, TORRENS was open to visitors between 1400 and 1700, during which time 3216 members of the public saw over the ship. The degree of public interest generated by TORRENS' visit to Adelaide was most pleasing and an indication of what can be expected later this year when the ship is due to return for Navy Week.

4. Shortly after 1100 on Monday 2nd July TORRENS cast off and proceeded down river from the McLaren Wharf to sea, en route to Sydney. Wind and tidal conditions at the time and a large merchant ship close astern necessitated the use of a tug to leave the wharf and a brief delay was experienced whilst the tug assisted other harbour movements at the scheduled time of our departure.

5. For the passage from Adelaide to Sydney a party of 30 Naval Reserve Cadets ranging in age from ~~14~~ to ~~17~~ years were embarked for three days sea experience. Supervised by one officer and four instructors, and assisted by generally favourable weather conditions, they had an enjoyable cruise and a brief insight into the operation of a modern warship at sea. A public relations team accompanied the cadets and filmed a variety of the cadets' activities at sea.

...../2.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

6. At 0645 on the 5th July TORRENS steamed into Sydney Harbour after a five month absence. The ship came to anchor in Watson Bay at 0700 and shortly afterwards embarked the Customs Officers who were to conduct the final clearance of TORRENS' personnel. This task partially accomplished and following your arrival onboard Sir, TORRENS weighed anchor and proceeded to Garden Island, berthing starboard side to the West Dock Wall shortly after 1000. Here many personnel were welcomed by families and friends.

7. TORRENS was moved cold at 1400 on Monday 9th July to alongside HMAS STALWART.

8. Long leave and self-maintenance progressed throughout the remainder of the period and several cold moves were made as a result of an FH5 equipment trial. As the month closed TORRENS was at No. 5 buoy progressing this trial.

9. Whilst planned maintenance, leave and a number of cold moves have necessarily restricted efforts towards the ship's appearance, this together with the ship's material state, remains good.

10. The health, conduct and morale of the ship's company all continue at a pleasingly high state.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

(H.P. BERGER)
COMMANDER RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: (1) - Annex A - Steaming Annex
(2) - Annex B - Exercise Annex

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'A' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 DATED 3rd AUGUST, 1973

STEAMING ANNEX

1. Distance steamed during the month	1,023.0 miles
2. Hours underway during the month	68.7 hours
3. Distance steamed since commissioning	98,974.9 miles
4. Hours underway since commissioning	6,969.8 hours

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour - NIL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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ANNEX 'B' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 DATED 3rd AUGUST, 1973

EXERCISE ANNEX

NAVIGATION

Blind Pilotage	1

GUNNERY

Small Arms shoot	1

COMMUNICATIONS

Teletype Exercise	1
Navcomex	1

NBCD

Minor NBCD/Internal Communications Exercise	1
Sea Cadet Instructions Exercises	4

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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FILE 18/6/4420

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings AUGUST 1973

AS(NS) 11/2019 Leave + Sea maintenance
2nd 9 Exercises in CAA. Visit to Newcastle.

D of O

Dcop.

DCNS

CNS 21/9

CNP 28/9

CNTS 2/10

CNSW 4/10

SECRETARY 5/10

C of S 5/10

DPR 5/10

AS(NS) (NS55) 8/10

NOTES: A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.

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20/9/73

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

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NAVY—CANBERRA | 18 | 6 | 4420

Telephone KF
359-9111

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A.F. 1/16/58

19 SEP A.M.
REGISTRY

18 SEP 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1973

Forwarded.

(A.A. Willis)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure:

HMAS TORRENS Report 1/16/2 dated 4 September, 1973

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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1.16.2

HMAS TORRENS
At Sea.

4th September, 1973.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

For Information

The Commander,
Third Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1973.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of August, 1973. All times are Zone Kilo (-10).

2. Throughout most of the month of August, TORRENS was berthed at Garden Island undergoing a Leave and Self Maintenance period; until 27th August when the ship proceeded to sea and commenced operating in the Sydney/Jervis Bay Exercise Areas.

3. On the 1st August, I proceeded on twenty one days leave. Throughout this time TORRENS was berthed alongside STALWART, except for an occasional cold move as required for a trial, or alongside a crane berth for the placing or removal of equipment associated with a trial. During one of these moves on the 7th August, a group of thirty five children from Campbelltown Central school was onboard.

4. On Thursday 16th, fifty six personnel from this ship, combined with personnel from HMA Ships HOBART and VENDETTA, to form G and H companies in a march through the streets of the City of Sydney, after a ceremony at which the Fleet was granted the Freedom of the City. The following day the Managing Director of EMIE (Aust), Mr. R.B. Reynolds and Mr. P.A. Allaway, the Chairman/Manager of EMIE, visited the ship whilst IKARA alignment checks were being carried out.

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5. At 0900 on Monday 27th, TORRENS cast off and proceeded to number 3 buoy to ammunition and unload extra Ikara missiles. Heavy rain during the forenoon delayed the transferring of the missiles, so it was not until 1545 that the ship slipped from the buoy and proceeded to sea, to exercise in accordance with the EAXP. Early the next morning, TORRENS entered Sydney Harbour, and embarked two representatives of the Inspector of Naval Ordance (INO) at 0830 in Watson's Bay, thereafter proceeding directly to sea. The function of the INO Team was to assess muzzle velocity calibration firings which were carried out at six hourly intervals finishing at midnight. Concurrent with the last firing a shell tracking performance evaluation trial (COMAUSFLT 280455Z AUG - received that evening), was successfully completed with the radar locking on to the shell, inspite of adverse weather conditions including rain and heavy cloud.

6. At 0830 on Wednesday 29th, having steamed in company with VENDETTA and carried out a further CASEX A2 from 0400 - 0800, TORRENS and VENDETTA entered Jervis Bay and performed a dummy formation anchorage. The INO team was landed at CRESWELL at 0900 and the two ships proceeded to sea to rendezvous with ONSLOW and participate in a CASEX A3 until 1400. Further exercises in company with VENDETTA that day, included AA Tracking and Firing during which TORRENS shot the sleeve target in half.

7. The following day, the two ships plus ONSLOW carried out a CASEX A6 and later a CASEX A2. As in the previous two days the water conditions were favourable for sonar, the submarine was held almost continuously be either ship and excellent practice obtained by TORRENS and VENDETTA. This first week of exercising since mid-winter leave proved successful as a shake down, particularly for the twenty-two percent new personnel. It also started what will no doubt be a close association with HMAS VENDETTA over the next few months as we assist with her workup programme.

8. At 1000 on Friday 31st, TORRENS berthed at Merewether St. Wharf in Newcastle for a week-end visit to coincide with the commencement of the City of Newcastle's annual Mattara Festival. I made an official call on the Lord Mayor, Alderman D.G. Mcdougall, CBE and later on the Acting Superintendent of the Newcastle Police, Superintendent Davison.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

9. With TORRENS in Newcastle, the month of August came to a close. The ship's company has been addressed on security matters during the month but due to the leave period occupying most of August, the Welfare Committee did not meet. Morale is high, health and the conduct of the ship's company has been good.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

H.P. Berger

(H.P. BERGER)
COMMANDER RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures:
(1) Annex A - Steaming Annex
(2) Annex B - Exercise Annex
(3) Annex C - ASW Weapon Firing Annex

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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Annex 'A' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2 dated 4th September, 1973

STEAMING ANNEX

1.	Distance steamed during the month.	1109.0
2.	Hours underway during the month.	97.43/60
3.	Distance steamed since commissioning.	99060.9
4.	Hours underway since commissioning.	6998.44/60

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour - NIL.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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Annex 'B' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2 dated 4th September, 1973

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. Seamanship and Navigation

Blind Pilotage	1.
OOW Anchorages	1.
OOW RAS Approaches	1.
Light Jackstay Transfers	1.
OOW Manoeurvres	1.
OOW Shiphandling	1.

2. AIO and TAS

CASEX A2	5.
CASEX A3	1.
CASEX A6	1.

3. Gunnery

MV Calibration Firings	3.
AATX	2.
AATFX	3.
SUPAC	1.
Shell tracking evaluation	1.
Balloon Tracking	1.
Competitive rifle shoots	4.

4. Communications

NAVCOMEX 251	1.
NAVCOMEX 252	2.
EWX 23	1.

5. Diving

Day Exercises	1.

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Annex 'C' to HMAS TORRENS letter 1.16.2 dated 4th September, 1973

ASW WEAPON FIRING ANNEX

NIL

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED

FILE 18/6/4482

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS TORRENS Report of Proceedings SEPTEMBER 1973.

AS(NS) 29/10.

D of O 30/10.

DGOP 31/10

DCNS 1/11

CNS 2/11

CNP 5/11

CNTS 6/11

CNSW 7/11

SECRETARY 8/11

C of S 8/11

DPR 12/11

D of O

AS(NS) (N855) 13/11

Visit to Newcastle.
Exercises Sydney FB area.
Yacht rosem in Sydney Harbour.

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24/10/73

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

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NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 4482

Telephone:
359-9111 CMR

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

23 OCT 1973
NAVY REGISTRY

A F. 1/16/58

22 OCT 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1973

1. Forwarded.

2. The question of awards (vide paragraph 8) is being dealt with separately.

(A.M. Synnot)
Rear Admiral
Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure:

HMAS TORRENS Report 1/16/2 dated 5th October 1973

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED

1.16.2

HMAS TORRENS
At Sydney.
5th October, 1973

Flag Officer Commanding,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

For information:
The Commander, Third Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of September, 1973. All times are Zone Kilo (-10).

2. The month commenced with TORRENS in Newcastle, for the start of the city's annual Mattara Festival. This was followed by four days at sea in the Sydney/Jervis Bay Exercise Area, prior to returning to Sydney on 6th September. Another period of five days duration, was spent in the Jervis Bay Exercise Area from 17th to 21st September, and the remainder of the month alongside at Garden Island Dockyard, where TORRENS was berthed, when September came to a close.

3. On Saturday 1st September, TORRENS was opened to visitors whilst alongside Merewether Street Wharf in Newcastle. A total of 1500 members of the public looked over the ship and another 1450, the following day. At 1830 an Official Cocktail Party was held onboard, attended by a number of local dignitaries, and the newly crowned Mattara Princess.

4. From the quarterdeck of TORRENS on the afternoon of 2nd September, a "Blessing of the Fleet Ceremony" was conducted by the Archbishop of Newcastle and several priests of other denominations. During this, members of the duty watch, and a number of RANR Cadets from TS TOBRUK lined the ship's side, while a procession of small and medium craft, paraded in column past TORRENS to be blessed. Approximately two thousand people gathered on the wharf to witness the procession of fishing boats, ferries and launches, the first ceremony of its kind in the Port of Newcastle.

5. At 1000 on Monday 3rd September, TORRENS cast off and departed from Newcastle after a very successful visit. The "hand of friendship" (Mattara) had definitely been extended; the warm welcome, friendliness and genuine interest in the ship and the Navy was most marked. This had been immediately sensed by the ship's company who responded with conspicuously good behaviour.

...../2.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

Steaming southwards towards Jervis Bay throughout the day, an AA Tracking and Firing Exercise was carried out in Area R487 from 1530 to 1730. During the first firing run of this serial, included in the 70% TTB's, TORRENS duplicated the effort of the previous week in scoring a direct hit on the sleeve target.

6. Having rendezvoused with VENDETTA at 2230, the two ships steamed in company throughout the night and entered Jervis Bay together at 0700 on Tuesday 4th September. TORRENS landed the ship's Helicopter Fire Party for fire fighting training ashore, the ship then proceeded to rendezvous with SUPPLY just off Jervis Bay. During the forenoon, OOW RAS approaches and manoeuvres were carried out, followed by a token RAS(L) using the Probe method. TORRENS then returned to Jervis Bay, anchoring at 1230, and conducted internal NBCD exercises and a NAVCOMEX throughout the afternoon. A demonstration by CDT2 and a multi ship Operation Awkward involving SUPPLY and VENDETTA also, had been scheduled for the evening. Conditions associated with winds over 30 knots however, made diving unsafe and the FMCDO recommended that ships carry out internal AWKWARD exercises.

7. During the forenoon of Wednesday 5th September TORRENS' Landing Party was exercised ashore by the new Landing Party Officer. The ship weighed anchor at 1500 and proceeded to sea to carry out OOW manoeuvres with SUPPLY, followed by a night RAS(L) which using the Probe method, was swiftly accomplished. On completion of this, SUPPLY, TORRENS and VENDETTA steamed in company until 0400 when all ships proceeded independently.

8. NBCD exercises and steering gear breakdown drills were carried out during the forenoon on the 6th. At 1430 having entered Sydney Harbour and just turned into the Western Channel, a member of the bridge staff observed a half deck powerboat in difficulty in the vicinity of the rocks at the foot of Outer North Head. Having assessed that a threat to human life was involved, TORRENS altered course sharply around Junction Buoy and proceeded at 18 knots directly to the area. Harbour Control and GID Master Attendant were informed of the incident. It then became apparent that a small yacht was moving towards the rocks in a brave attempt to rescue the survivors of the powerboat which had now sunk. The ship's siren was sounded to make the yacht aware that help was at hand but was apparently not heard. The yacht was caught in the surge and driven against the cliffs. TORRENS' 26 ft utility boat was lowered and a diver with a line swam from it three times through rough seas and strong surge to rescue the five persons in the water. The ship meanwhile manoeuvred to keep off the lee shore. TORRENS berthed at the West Dock Wharf at 1445 and after a short press conference transport was arranged to take the survivors home. (HMAS TORRENS Message DTG 060645Z September, 1973 refers).

...../3.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

9. A trial of ships side illumination using boom mounted floodlights was carried out on that evening in preparation for the Opera House opening. The result was most effective with only two minor changes necessary to give more even illumination.

10. At 1100 on Friday 7th, VENDETTA berthed alongside and it became known that she had a split in her hull and was unlikely to proceed to sea as scheduled the following Monday, for her Training Battle Problem and subsequent workup. As TORRENS' programme was closely associated with the workup for VENDETTA, and in view of the recent reductions in fuel expenditure, the decision was made for TORRENS to remain in harbour also.

11. On Tuesday 11th, TORRENS underwent a cold move to alongside PARRAMATTA, berthed at the North East Cruiser Wharf. The ship remained in this berth until proceeding to sea on Monday 17th September, when with an ASAC Course from HMAS WATSON embarked, TORRENS cast off at 0950 and proceeded to the east of Garden Island where an armament stores lighter waited. Thirty-six boxes of fuzes were quickly exchanged prior to proceeding down harbour in company with HMAS DERWENT. On passing through the heads, DERWENT was detached to carry out her Family Day cruise to the north and TORRENS proceeded southwards towards Jervis Bay, carrying out OOW/engineroom breakdown drills enroute. ASAC training was carried out throughout the afternoon and from 1600 till 1900 TORRENS carried out Naval Gunfire Support, Communications, Navigation and Firing Exercises off Beecroft Head. This was the ship's first NGS serial since postings necessitated major changes in the Bombardment team. The new team performed satisfactorily using plotting table and chart method alternatively and firing runs proved effective. TORRENS later entered Jervis Bay and anchored overnight.

12. Having sailed at 0700, TORRENS spent the forenoon of Tuesday 18th September carrying out ASAC training, in addition to further engineroom and boilerroom drills. From 1300 to 1500 the ship carried out runs over the "measured mile" off Cape St. George. The calibration from 8-20 knots showed the ship's log to be reading accurately, TORRENS then returned to Jervis Bay to exercise ship's divers and remain at anchor overnight.

13. At 0700 on Wednesday 19th TORRENS sailed from Jervis Bay to rendezvous with HMAS ANZAC for an hour of OOW manoeuvres prior to commencing ASAC training at 0900. At 1130 a TOWEX was carried out with ANZAC, who provided the gear and TORRENS being towed. During the afternoon, as ASAC training continued, light jackstay transfers were exercised with ANZAC. This was followed by OOW manoeuvres, culminating with a formation anchorage in Jervis Bay at 1715. Strong winds caused the diving exercise programmed for the evening to be cancelled.

...../4.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

14. On Thursday 20th September between 0800 and 0930 with TORRENS at anchor in Jervis Bay, the ship's company witnessed an ILR and winching demonstration, carried out for the benefit of both TORRENS and ANZAC. TORRENS then proceeded to sea for a further full day of ASAC training followed by an A/S Light Mortar Firing and recovery of projectiles prior to meeting ANZAC again at 1800 for a night steam in company. Throughout the night, ANZAC was exercised in station changing for the benefit of the Midshipmans' course embarked and was detached at 0600 off Botany Bay.

15. At 0845 on Friday 21st September, in Watsons Bay, TORRENS embarked eleven Army personnel and Mr. D. Goodwin, a benefactor of RAN House. The ship then proceeded to sea and at 0930 carried out a light jackstay transfer with ANZAC, during which one of the soldiers was transferred for a brief meeting with his brother, an Able Seaman who was manning the jackstay inhaul in ANZAC. A short demonstration of OOW manoeuvres followed and ANZAC was detached at 1030 in order to return to harbour. The programmed Anti-aircraft tracking and firing which was due to take place had to be cancelled due to a last minute M22 computer defect. This was the first time in ten months that a system or gun defect had prevented a scheduled AA firing. However, a light mortar firing and recovery was carried out in lieu, primarily for the benefit of the guests onboard. At 1300 that afternoon TORRENS entered Sydney Harbour, berthing outboard of DERWENT alongside the West Dock Wharf at 1330.

16. For the remainder of the month, TORRENS remained alongside at Garden Island, with a cold move to the South East Cruiser Wharf taking place on Monday 24th. On Tuesday 25th as a result of state-wide electricity restrictions TORRENS commenced running both diesel generators to feed the dockyard grid connected to HMA Ships HOBART and MORESBY. School children were shown over the ship on Thursday 27th.

17. With TORRENS alongside the South East Cruiser Wharf at Garden Island, the month of September came to a close. The Welfare Committee has met during the month and morale, health and conduct of the ship's company have all been good.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

H P Berger

(H.P. BERGER)
COMMANDER RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: Annexes A, B and C.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'A' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 dated 5th OCTOBER, 1973.

STEAMING ANNEX

1. Distance steamed during the month	1222.6
2. Hours underway during the month	107.12/60
3. Distance steamed since commissioning	100,283.5
4. Hours underway since commisioning	7,105.56/60

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routeing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour - NIL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'B' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1/16/2 DATED 5TH OCTOBER, 1973.

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. SEAMANSHIP AND NAVIGATION

OOW Anchorages	4
OOW RAS Approaches	2
OOW Manoeuvres	5
Blind Pilotage	4
NGS NAVEX	1
Light jackstay transfers	3
RAS(L)	2
TOWEX	1

2. AIO and TAS

Rainform Reporting Exercise	1
SPX(B)	1
NGSCX	1
ASAC Training	19½ hours for WATSON ASAC Course

3. GUNNERY

AATFX	1
NGSFX	1
Competitive Rifle Shoot	2
Landing Party Exercise	1

4. COMMUNICATIONS

NAVCOMEX 250	1
NAVCOMEX 401	3
NAVCOMEX 453	1
EWX 22	1
EWX 7	1

5. DIVING

Day exercises	2

Internal Operation Awkward exercise (no diving took place)

6. NBCD

Action, Emergency & Leaving Ship Stations	1
Practical Firefighting	1
Minor internal NBCDX	3

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'C' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 DATED 5TH OCTOBER, 1973

ASW WEAPON FIRING ANNEX

Light mortar firing	3 salvoes

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED

FILE 18/6/4547.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS Torrens Report of Proceedings October 1943

AS(NS) 26/11.

D of O 28/11

DGOps

DCNS 28/11

CNS 21..

CNP 3/12

CNTS 9/12

CNSW 5/12

SECRETARY 10/12

C of S 10/12

D/PR 12.12

AS(NS) (NS55) 8/1/74

Para 2. Visit to Adelaide cancelled. Exercises in EHA and SHP.

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Lee 26/11/73

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED

21 NOV A.M.

NAVY CANBERRA

18	6	4547

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

Telephone: KF
359-9111

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A.F. 1/16/58

20 NOV 1973

The Secretary
Department of the Navy

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1973

1. Forwarded.

2. With respect to paragraph 15, the Seacat simulator trials have been re-programmed for 27 November, 1973. RANTAU message DTG 050040Z NOV 73 refers.

(A.A. Willis)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure:

HMAS TORRENS Report unreferenced dated 5 November, 1973

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED

HMAS TORRENS
At Sydney.

5th November, 1973.

Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

For Information

The Commander, Third Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of October, 1973. All times are Zone Kilo (-10) until 0200K on Sunday 28th from when all times quoted are Zone Lima (-11)

2. The month of October commenced with TORRENS alongside at Garden Island instead of Adelaide, brought about by the requirement to reduce the fleet fuel expenditure. During this month TORRENS operated at sea in accordance with the East Australia Exercise Programme for the weeks commencing Monday 8th and Monday 15th October. This was followed by a self maintenance period at Garden Island prior to proceeding to sea again on 29th for exercises which continued until the close of the month.

3. On Tuesday 2nd TORRENS underwent a cold move at 0830 from the South East Cruiser Wharf to West Dock Wall bows north. This move was to facilitate M44 collimation trials. The ship's demolition team spent the day at 2DML Holsworthy where demolition exercises were carried out.

4. Thursday 4th October at 1100 TORRENS again underwent a cold move, back to the South East Cruiser Wharf to make way for RFA TIDESPRING, due to berth at West Dock Wall during the afternoon. When alongside the South East Cruiser Wharf PARRAMATTA berthed outboard of TORRENS and ANZAC outboard of PARRAMATTA in the afternoon.

..../2.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

5. Sunday 7th October TORRENS was open to public inspection and 735 members of the public visited the ship. This was a disappointing result considering the preparation and effort by the snip and was possibly due to the overcast weather.

6. On Tuesday 9th with three N.S.W. and two G.I.D. Apprentice prizewinners embarked, and a POUC course of six leading seaman, plus four staff from WATSON, TORRENS cast off at 0930 and moved to number two buoy for ammunitioning. Having slipped at approximately 1200 the ship proceeded to sea to rendezvous with HMAS ONSLOW for a Casex A1, the first of many Casex's for the week, primarily for the training and benefit of the POUC Course. The previously mild weather conditions worsened at about 1800 as a cold front passed through the exercise areas and necessitated the grounding of helicopters due to participate in a Casex A6 during the evening. The Casex continued however, until 2000 with TORRENS then due to proceed to Jervis Bay. HMAS VENDETTA was at this time to start a further casex with the submarine but a defective sonar prompted her to ask that TORRENS remain in the area and exercise in company until 2130. TORRENS obliged, and later anchored in Jervis Bay at 2340.

7. For the remainder of the week the ship exercised in accordance with the Eastern Australia Exercise Programme until Friday 12th when TORRENS rendezvoused with SUPPLY at 0600 twenty miles east of the entrance to Sydney Harbour. The ship later received fuel from the tanker, then at 0930 TORRENS took station astern of MELBOURNE and BRISBANE for the Fleet Entry into Sydney. Rain and restricted visibility unfortunately dampened the enthusiasm of any spectators and press photographers. TORRENS berthed outboard of PARRAMATTA at the South East Cruiser Wharf at 1035.

8. At 0800 on Tuesday 16th, three Australian Capital Territory Apprentice prize winners arrived onboard TORRENS , two of whom were young ladies. The group was accompanied by a chaperone from the staff of DPR. The apprentices had been awarded as part of their prize, a period at sea in an RAN Ship, as had the NSW prizewinners who had gone to sea in TORRENS the previous week. TORRENS cast off at 0850 in order to leave harbour in company with VENDETTA and DERWENT. Both ships were delayed however, and TORRENS proceeded alone. When at sea awaiting the consorts, the opportunity was taken for the Commanding Officer designate to practise shiphandling. Captain D.J. MARTIN RAN was spending four days sea familiarisation in preparation for assuming command in December. TORRENS then proceeded southwards to conduct an AATFX. At 1315 TORRENS headed further south to rendezvous with another aircraft in order to carry out an Ikara Sat 2. Later the ship proceeded to Jervis Bay and anchored at 1815, when the apprentice prizewinners were escorted ashore on their way to HMAS ALBATROSS.

.../3.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

9. The morning of Wednesday 17th, TORRENS weighed anchor at 0500 and proceeded to sea. An Ikara Sat 3 was carried out with DERWENT, followed by a further Sat 2 with a Maachi aircraft. TORRENS was thus prepared for her scheduled tactical Ikara firing during the forenoon. Sonar conditions with ONSLOW as the target, however were exceedingly poor, so the ship did not fire. Shortly after midday, TORRENS returned to Jervis Bay and commenced a noise ranging at 1440, which was completed in less that three hours. TORRENS then departed Jervis Bay for a night encounter exercise with DERWENT and VENDETTA, during which all ships successfully illuminated.

10. Night steaming in company with DERWENT then took TORRENS through to 0600 the following morning when both ships carried out another Ikara Sat 3, on completion of which a Casex E11/E12 with OXLEY was commenced. DERWENT, which was due to carry out a work-up Ikara firing in this serial encountered a defect, so at 0930 TORRENS became OCS. During an excellent firing opportunity, 'hold' had to be called at three seconds, due to a light aircraft fouling the safety firing arc, presumably during a diversion from the boredom of tuna sighting. Later at 1127 the ship carried out what initially appeared to be a successful tactical Ikara firing. The MK44 torpedo was recovered then TORRENS proceeded to the south to carry out a short but effective period of 4.5" surface gunnery firings. Further Casex's followed, with TORRENS, DERWENT and OXLEY conducting an A6 during the afternoon, then a C3 until 2100 for which VENDETTA joined in.

11. Officer of the watch manoeuvres and RAS approaches were conducted from 0600 on Friday 19th October until commencement of a Nuclear Transit exercise at 0745, still in company with VENDETTA and DERWENT. On completion the ship entered Port Jackson and fuelled at Chowder Bay prior to moving up harbour at midday. The ship then berthed alongside the overseas passenger terminal at Circular Quay, bows south, where it remained over the weekend, participating in the official opening of the Sydney Opera House and the associated festivities. For the weekend of the Opening of the Opera House TORRENS was floodlit each evening, thus contributing to the vast array of lighting and decorations that abounded in the City of Sydney that weekend. A number of friends and family of the ship's company of TORRENS were fortunate in obtaining a "grandstand view" of the festivities from the ship, during the afternoon and evening of Saturday 20th October. On the following day it was the public's chance to see TORRENS when the ship was open to visitors and 2,950 people came onboard for a brief tour of inspection. At 1145 on Monday 22nd October TORRENS cast off from Circular Quay and was moved cold, to the West Dock Wall at Garden Island, to commence a week long self maintenance period. Higher Rates training for Section One of the Promotion Board commenced this day.

...../4.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

12. During the forenoon of Friday 26th October, twelve Phase III SL Midshipmen from WATSON visited TORRENS for a brief AIO familiarisation. The group was shown the functions, layout and operation of the Operations room and sonar control room organisations.

13. On the morning of the 29th, seven naval apprentices from HMAS NIRIMBA embarked in TORRENS for one week of ship familiarisation. TORRENS sailed at 1000, leaving harbour in company with HMNZS CANTEBURY. The two ships carried out officer of the watch manoeuvres until 1200 when TORRENS detached to carry out 182 Sonar Sea acceptance trials under the supervision of a RANTAU Trials team. These proved successful and the ship anchored at 1800 in Jervis Bay.

14. At 0900 on Tuesday 30th October HMA Ships TORRENS, VENDETTA and DERWENT weighed anchor in Jervis Bay, having embarked a total number of 87 officers from the Army Staff College. The three ships then proceeded to sea for a full day of exercises en route to Sydney, to partly demonstrate the capability of RAN ships and aircraft. The days programme included; a demonstration of the accuracy and fire power of the Fleet Air Arm's A4G Skyhawk, 4.5 inch surface firing, anti-aircraft firing,(during which TORRENS shot down the sleeve target). Light jackstay transfers were also carried out. Finally, following a live anti-submarine mortar firing by TORRENS, all three ships returned to Sydney harbour, TORRENS berthing alongside West Dock Wall, Garden Island at 1730. The seas had been calm and the Army Officers appeared to have found the day informative, interesting and enjoyable.

15. TORRENS underwent a hot move at 0830 the following morning to the Degaussing Range at Rose Bay. The annual routine ranging took one hour and fifteen minutes to complete. The ship then left Sydney harbour and carried out UA8 and UA9 calibration. On completion of the EW calibration came M44 Simulator Trials. A system defect prevented the trials being carried out and TORRENS proceeded to Jervis Bay exercising steering gear breakdowns en route.

16. It was here, at anchor in Jervis Bay, that the month of October came to a close. The Welfare Committee has met during the month and the ship's company have been addressed on matters of security. Morale, health and conduct of the ship's company have all been good.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

H P Berger

(H.P. BERGER)
COMMANDER RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'A' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 dated 5NOV73.

STEAMING ANNEX

1.	Distance steamed during the month.	1922.8
2.	Hours underway during the month.	152.03/60
3.	Distance steamed since commissioning.	102,206.3
4.	Hours underway since commissioning.	7257.59/60

RANOP 0150

Occassions on which fast routing speed has been exceed for more than one hour - NIL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'B' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 dated 5NOV73.

EXERCISE ANNEX

1. SEAMANSHIP AND NAVIGATION

OOW Anchorages	3
OOW Manoeuvres	3
RAS Approaches	6
RAS(L) Probe	1
Light Jackstay Transfers	6
Blind Pilotage	2

2. AIO AND TAS

Harbour Plotting Exercise	1
Air Raid Reporting Exercise	3
GOP Exercise	2
Night Encounter Exercise	1
4 Hour War	1
CASEX A1	2
CASEX A2	2
CASEX A6	3
CASEX C2	1
CASEX C3	1
CASEX C4	1

3. GUNNERY

AAWDX	1
AATX	3
Balloon Tracking	3
SUTF	2
AATFX	2
Starshell Firing (during NEX)	1
Competitive Rifle Shoots	2

..../4.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

4. COMMUNICATIONS

NAVCOMEX	305	1
	350	2
	454	2
	455	2
EWX 22		1

5. DIVING

Day Exercises	1
Night Exercises	1

6. NBCD

Pre-Wetting Trial	1
Monitoring party Exercise	2
Cleansing party Exercise	2
De-contamination party Exercise	2
Nuclear Transit	1

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

AANNEX 'C' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 dated 5NOV73.

ASW WEAPON FIRING ANNEX

Ikara Firing	1 practice MK44 torpedo
Live mortar firing	3 salvoes.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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FILE 18/6/4615

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS Torrens. Report of Proceedings November 1973.

AS(NS) Rh. 7/1.

D ~~of O~~ 7/1

DCNP 627/1

DCNS — Jana 16 Dec/1

~~CNS~~

CNP Rob/1

CNTS Jul 14/1

~~CNSW~~ 15/1

SD(NO) Mar 17/1

~~SECRETARY~~

Exercises in Segamy / Ibaca
Annual Inspection.
Juc 90.

C of S A7/1

DPR MAC 21/1

~~D of O~~

AS(~~NS~~) ~~(NS59)~~ 23/1/74

NOTES: A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.

B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.

C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.

D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

Jee 4/1/74

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY- CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 46/5

27 DEC 1973

Telephone
359-911 CMR

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A.F. 1/16/58

21st December, 1973

The Secretary
Department of Defence (Navy Office)

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER 1973

Forwarded.

(J.D. Goble)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosure:

HMAS TORRENS Report unreferenced dated 4th December 1973

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED

HMAS TORRENS
At Sea
4th December 1973

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. Australian Fleet.

For Information:
The Commander, Third Australian Destroyer Squadron.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the month of November 1973. All times are Zone Lima (-11).

2. Throughout the month TORRENS has been working in the Sydney/Jervis Bay Exercise Areas in accordance with the East Australian Exercise Programme. A ten day Self Maintenance Period was included in the month during which the Ship's Annual Inspection was carried out.

3. On the morning of Thursday, 1st November, the ship was at anchor in Jervis Bay and weighed at 0700 to commence Mortar Sea Check Firings within the Bay. On completion of the firings TORRENS left Jervis Bay and carried out a Naval Gunfire Support Firing exercise on Beecroft Range and then proceeded to carry out a full power trial. At 1730 the ship rendezvoued with DERWENT and VENDETTA for a Kennelex, then night Jackstay transfers. During TORRENS' approach on DERWENT, the latter had a steering gear failure and turned across TORRENS' approach. TORRENS was manoeuvered clear and that portion of the serial terminated.

4. From 0600-0800 on Friday, 2nd November a surface Throw Off Firing was carried out with VENDETTA and DERWENT. On completion the ship entered Sydney Harbour and berthed without use of a tug, starboard side to on STALWART at the E.M.S. mooring and remained there over the weekend.

5. At 0815 on Tuesday, 6th November TORRENS cast off and proceeded to number 5 buoy to embark explosives for forthcoming trials. At 0930 the ship slipped ~~the~~ buoy and proceeded to sea to carry out exercises and trials as detailed in Annex B.

6. The ship entered Jervis Bay at 1255 am Wednesday, 7th November and anchored. At 1350, a Senior Officers Study Period Group from AJASS was welcomed on board to view a series of demonstrations of the ship's equipment. The group departed at 1515 and TORRENS weighed anchor and sailed. Two Officers from the Assistant/PWO(G) Course were then transferred to the ship by helicopter from DERWENT, to carry out firings. Between 1700 and 1930 a Naval Gunfire Support and Starshell firing was carried out in company with DERWENT. After the firing serial both ships joined VENDETTA in the final stages of a five hour war. On completion of the war the three ships returned to Jervis Bay anchoring at 2350.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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7. The following morning at 0630, TORRENS weighed anchor and proceeded to sea to carry out further gunnery serials for the benefit of the student officers embarked. On completion TORRENS returned to Jervis Bay anchoring at 1200 in K2 berth with VENDETTA at anchor in K1. A very well arranged and interesting twelve hour Disaster Relief and Internal Security exercise was then carried out with parties being landed ashore. After sunset, Operation AWKWARD was exercised. Only one of the four frogmen was sighted prior to placing of charges. However, radar ensured the early detection of the two attacking CMF canoes. Although the canoes were manoeuvered very strenuously to avoid capture, radioed directions, the wind, and moonlight made them easy prey to the ship's boat patrols.

8. At 0010 on Friday, 9th November TORRENS weighed anchor and proceeded towards Sydney, and acted as a target for DERWENT during a Surface Throw Off Firing soon after dawn. At 0955 the ship berthed at Chowder Bay and after re-fuelling proceeded up harbour to berth starboard side to DERWENT on STALWART at the E.M.S. mooring at 1130. The ship remained at this berth over the weekend.

9. On Monday, 12th November at 1045, the ship cast off and proceeded to sea in company with VENDETTA, for exercises and trials. Throughout the week TORRENS was to act as consort to VENDETTA during preparation for her Final Battle Problem, the remaining time during the week being occupied by RANRL and RANTAU trials as detailed in Annex B. The trials continued all night each night and usually embodied periods stopped, during which time the ship rolled heavily in the southerly swell. Whilst at sea, final preparations were being made for the imminent Annual Inspection, but most efforts were hampered by the prevailing rough weather. At 0830 on Tuesday 13th December, Divisions were held at sea off Jervis Bay.

10. The Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Sir Richard PEEK KBE, CB, DSC intended to pay a farewell visit to the Ship to address the Ship's Company on the afternoon of Wednesday 14th November. The Admiral was to join off Jervis Bay by Helicopter transfer, however, a fresh Southerly gale was blowing and the accompanying sea state was causing a violent pitching motion on the transfer course. This made the transfer unsafe and unfortunately it had to be abandoned after one attempt.

11. At 0500 on Thursday, 15th November TORRENS entered Jervis Bay and stood by VENDETTA as she weighed anchor, and then sailed in company to act as consort for her Final Battle Problem. During the forenoon, the ship was subjected to missile firing patrol boat attack, a low level strike, a nuclear attack and transit through a fallout area and finally in the afternoon, carried out a Surface Target Firing. Later in the afternoon, the ship entered Port Jackson and at 1620 berthed port side to VENDETTA at the North End of the Cruiser Wharf to commence a ten day Self Maintenance Period.

12. From Friday, 16th November, final preparations were being made to prepare the ship for the Annual Inspection.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

On Sunday a group of eleven second year Cadet Midshipmen joined for a week's experience in a ship. The intention expressed by CRESWELL was for them to become acquainted with lower deck life and routine. Due to the timing of their visit they witnessed and later expressed that they were pleasantly surprised that spirit and motivation could still be found to such a degree in modern day junior sailors. The following day the ship was cold moved to the Oil Wharf, port side to, which was to be the ship's berth for the Annual Inspection. On Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st November, Fleet Staff Officers carried out Departmental Inspections.

13. At 0900 on Thursday, 22nd November, Commodore A.A. WILLIS, OBE, ADC, Chief of Staff to the Commander HMA Fleet, arrived onboard and inspected the Ship's Guard and Company at Divisions followed by upper deck and machinery space rounds. Commodore Willis left the ship at mid-day and returned onboard at 1300 to carry out below deck rounds, finally departing TORRENS at 1530 and thus completing three days of a full and thorough ship's Annual Inspection.

14. The following day Friday, 23rd, the ship was cold moved back to the North End Cruiser Wharf outboard of VENDETTA, where she was to remain for the weekend prior to sailing for JUC 90.

15. Early on Monday, 26th November a cold front passed through Sydney and at 0845 TORRENS sailed in company with SWAN, VENDETTA and DERWENT for the Casex Phase of JUC 90. When the ships passed through Sydney Heads the seas had begun to build up and the weather was deteriorating. Exercises were carried out as listed in Annex B, but the weather made conditions uncomfortable and prevented the participation of RAAF/RAN Aircraft and Patrol Boats until the final stages of the week.

16. At 0900 on Wednesday 28th, TORRENS was carrying out a close A/S action with DERWENT as part of a Casex A2 when the ship was rolled over beyond 40° by a large wave. In the roll the bows of the 26' Utility Boat broke loose from its davit, gripe and extra lashings and fell into the sea. The forward fall slipped itself, the after gripe and lashings parted and the after fall ran off the drum. The ship turned, a swimmer transferred to the moderately damaged boat, but was unable to start it, so the boat was taken in tow twenty-five miles into Jervis Bay, and left at the Marine Section where the Shipwright from TORRENS was left to carry out a survey and some minor repairs while the ship returned to the next Casex.

17. By p.m. Thursday 29th, the weather and seas had moderated sufficiently for full participation from the RAAF, RAN fixed and rotary wing aircraft for the Casex C3 held between 1730 and 2230. On completion of the exercise TORRENS night steamed in company with VENDETTA and DERWENT on passage to Sydney exercising station changing in the middle and morning watch.

18. At 0810 on Friday 30th November TORRENS berthed starboard side to DERWENT at Chowder Bay and refuelled. At 1045 the ship sailed and proceeded south. The final three and a half hour Casex with ONSLOW was cancelled due to a problem in ONSLOW so at 1605 the ship anchored one and a half miles off shore in the Shoalhaven Bight and remained there until 2300 when TORRENS weighed anchor and proceeded to rendezvous with VENDETTA and DERWENT.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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19. With TORRENS at Defence Stations patrolling an area for the "cold war" phase of JUC 90 Longex the month of November came to a close. The material state of the ship remains excellent with all weapon systems operating efficiently. The "UP-TIME" for TORRENS so far this year has been significantly high at 61.6% with ship availability at 83.7%. The ship's Welfare Committee has met during the month and morale, health and conduct of the ship have all been good.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

H Berger

(H.P. BERGER)
COMMANDER RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER.

Enclosures: Annex A - Steaming Annex
Annex B - Exercise Annex.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

ANNEX 'A' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 dated 4DEC73

RESTRICTED

STEAMING ANNEX

1.	Distance steamed during the month.	3,106.2 n.m.
2.	Hours underway during the month.	242.7 hrs.
3.	Distance steamed since commissioning.	105,312 n.m.
4.	Hours underway since commissioning.	7,500.7 n.m.

RANOP 0150

Occassions on which fast routing speed has been exceeded more than one hour:

DATE	DURATION	AVERAGE SPEED	REMARKS
01 NOV	3 hours	22	Full Power Trial
06 NOV	2 hours	19	Exercise Requirements.
13 NOV	4 hours	18.5	6 Hour War
15 NOV	5 hours	18.0	Vendettas Final Battle Problem.
28 NOV	3 hours	17.5	JUC 90, Cassex Phase.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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EXERCISE ANNEX

1. SEAMANSHIP AND NAVIGATION

Light Jackstay	1st.
Helo Transfer	7th.
OOW Manoeuvres	6th, 26th (2).
OOW Pilatage	7th.
Heaving Line Transfer	27th.
R.A.S. Approaches	1st.

2. T.A.S.

Casex A2	26th, 28th.
Casex A4	27th, 28th.
Casex A6	28th, 29th.
Casex C2	26th, 28th, 29th.
Casex C3	13th, 27th, 28th (2), 29th.
Light Mortar Firings	13th (9 bombs)
Mortar Sea Check Firings	1st (21 Inerts, 3 lights).
Operation Awkward	8th.
ROT Trials	13th, 14th.
2007 Trials	7th, 12th, 13th.

3. A.I.O.

ARRK	1st, 6th, 7th, 13th, 26th, 27th,28th.
SPX	1st.
Konnelex	1st.
GOPEX	7th, 13th.
5-6 Hour War	7th, 13th.
STRIKEX	12th, 15th.
KELTEX	15th.
Consort for VENDETTA's Final Battle Problem.	15th.

4. GUNNERY

NGSCX	1st, 12th.
NGSFX	1st, 7th, 14th.
AAWDX	7th, 13th.
SUTOF	3rd, 12th.
SUTF	8th, 15th.
AATFX	8th.
DISTEX/IJEX	8th.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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5. COMMUNICATIONS.

EWX5	12th.
EWX6	6th.
EWX13	1st.
EWX14	1st.
EWX20	26th.
EWX22	28th.
EWX23	27th.
NAVCOMEX 205	9th.
NAVCOMEX 252	9th, 19th.
Visual Recognition Exercise	19th.

6. DIVING.

Day Exercises	5th, 8th, 30th.
Night Exercises	8th.

7. N.B.C.D.

Operation Awkward	8th.
Internal NBCDX	12th.
Fallout Transit	15th.
Pre-Wetting	15th.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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FILE 18/6/4665.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

(NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS TORRENS. Report of Proceedings December 1973

AS(NS) 24/1.

D of O 25/1.

~~DGOP~~ 29/1

~~DONS~~

~~CNS~~

~~CNP~~ 1/2

~~CNTS~~

~~CNSW~~ 4/2.

~~SD(NO)~~ 5/2

~~C of S~~ 6/2

~~DPR~~ 7.2

~~D of O~~

~~AS(NS)~~ (NS55) 20/2/74

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23/1/74

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

15 JAN

NAVY—CANBERRA

18	6	4665

Telephone: LMD
359-9111

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

A.F. 1/16/58

11 JAN 1974

The Secretary
Department of Defence (Navy Office)

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - 1ST - 10TH DECEMBER AND 11TH - 31ST DECEMBER - 1973

Forwarded.

(J.D. Goble)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosures:
HMAS TORRENS Report unreferenced dated 10th December, 1973
HMAS TORRENS Report unreferenced dated 5th January, 1974 Not Received By Lodk.

Docat's office requested (phone) 16/1/74 to forward 2nd enclosures. 16/1

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED

HMAS TORRENS
at Sydney,

10th December, 1973.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

For Information:

The Commander,
THIRD AUSTRALIAN DESTROYER SQUADRON.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
1st - 10th DECEMBER, 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the period from 1st to 10th of December, 1973. All times are Zone Lima (-11).

2. At 0001 on Saturday 1st December TORRENS rendezvoused with VENDETTA and DERWENT to commence the first phase of the Longex section of JUC 90. This phase was a cold war situation in which the three ships with the assistance of up to two Wessex helicopters, one S.2E Tracker and a RAAF Longe Range Maritime Patrol aircraft were to patrol an imaginary strait off Beecroft Head. Two submarines were to transit the strait during the 24 hour period of the cold war, on passage to their patrol areas. The aim of the friendly forces was to detect and track the submarines and force them to surface. Contacts were gained on the submarines but water conditions gave them the advantage and they were able to successfully evade the Blue units without being forced to surface.

3. On Sunday 2nd December TORRENS assumed the duties of Commander of the Task Unit, which consisted of TORRENS, VENDETTA and DERWENT. The three ships entered Jervis Bay and carried out a formation anchorage at 0130 for a bried respite between the hot and cold war phases. At 0545 the Task Unit weighed anchor and proceeded in accordance with the Operation Order to commence the transit of a pre-determined route and the Hot War phase of Longex. TORRENS period as C.T.U. concluded at 2200 and the duties were passed to DERWENT.

4. The number of incidents initiated during this phase of JUC 90 was high, approximately one every two hours. Unfortunately for the surface units the weather conditions caused discomfort aboard ship with strong winds and associated large seas building up during the two day period.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

This and the poor sonar conditions put the ships at a disadvantage and most of the initial detections of the submarines were made by the sighting of a green grenade. With the three worked up ships the ensuing anti submarine actions were carried out successfully, but with the limited range at which contact could be held, attack and search tactics were restricted. One more favourable incident commenced with a submarine being sighted by a TORRENS lookout as it surfaced approximately eight miles away thinking it was at a sufficient distance for a simulated missile attack. TORRENS engaged with guns before the boat dived then with a simulated IKARA attack.

5. The air threat was realistically initiated and the tactics used by the A4 and Maachi aircraft showed good planning and skillful execution. On at least two occasions the air attacks were co-ordinated with anti submarine actions, giving a genuine multi threat environment and exercising the ships fully within their defense watch organisation.

6. At 0830 on Tuesday, 4th December the Hot War phase was concluded off the entrance to Jervis Bay and TORRENS proceeded independantly to Sydney berthing alongside the West Wall at 1415, where the opportunity was taken to wash down and scrub off nine days accumulated salt. The ship remained at Garden Island overnight and sailed the following morning at 1115 and proceeded to Jervis Bay to act as a "Back drop" for the RAN College Graduation Ceremony. On the morning of Wednesday, 5th December, Captain D.G. ROBERTSON R.N., Director of Naval Legal Services joined for a two day visit.

7. The ship anchored at C1 berth in Jervis Bay at 1750 on Wednesday, 5th December and remained there until the following evening. Captain Robertson and I attended the Graduation Ceremony and were very impressed by the high standard of the parade. At 2200 TORRENS weighed anchor and proceeded at slow speed to Sydney.

8. On passage HMA Ships MELBOURNE, BRISBANE and STUART were met returning from the Far East. During the morning watch TORRENS was slowly overhauled by the French yacht PEN DUICK V1, which was the leading yacht in the Capetown to Sydney leg of the WHITBREAD round the World yacht race. PEN DUICK was observed to be making good better than eleven knots before the fresh Southerly breeze and was seen to cross the finishing line off Sydney Heads at approximately 0700.

9. At 0801 TORRENS berthed outboard of SWAN and VENDETTA at the north end of the Cruisers Wharf and at 0900 I attended the Past Exercise Discussion for JUC 90 in the Garden Island Theatrette.

10. On Tuesday 11th December, I handed over command of HMAS TORRENS to Captain D.J. MARTIN RAN.

...../3.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

11. The health and morale in the ship continues at a high standard and on looking back over the last year, it is pleasing to observe that there has been only one warrant issued in TORRENS in that time.

H P Berger

(H.P. BERGER)
COMMANDER RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: Will be forwarded with ROP for the end of the month.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1072999

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

18 JAN 1974

NAVY-CANBERRA
18. 6. 4665

Telephone: LMD
359-9111

REG. CLK.
INDEXER
INDEX CN
LOG ASST.
SECT. 150

H.M.A. FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

AF 1/16/58

11 JAN 1974

17 JAN 1974

The Secretary
Department of Defence (Navy Office)

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - 1ST - 10TH DECEMBER AND 11TH - 31ST DECEMBER - 1973

Forwarded.

(J.D. Goble)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Enclosures:
→ HMAS TORRENS Report unreferenced dated 10th December, 1973
→ HMAS TORRENS Report unreferenced dated 5th January, 1974

* forwarded under 1/16/58 dated 11 JAN 74.
* Rec'd 1600. 21/1/74.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1072999

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1.16-58

HMAS TORRENS
At Sydney

5th January 1974.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

For Information:

The Commander,
THIRD AUSTRALIAN DESTROYER SQUADRON.

HMAS TORRENS - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
11th - 31st DECEMBER, 1973

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command for the period 11th - 31st December 1973. All times are Zone Lima (-11).

2. On Tuesday 11th December I assumed Command of HMAS TORRENS from Commander H.P. Berger RAN. At 1200 on Wednesday 12th December I assumed command of the Third Australian Destroyer Squadron, relieving Captain I.H. RICHARDS RAN.

3. Throughout this part of December TORRENS remained at Garden Island for the long leave period. On Thursday 13th and Friday 14th December I attended the 1973 Naval Symposium at HMAS PENGUIN.

4. On Christmas Day, families of the Duty Watch came onboard for Christmas Dinner. A film crew from ABC Television was invited to cover the families arriving and enjoying the very well prepared and presented meal. A brief portion of the film was shown on the ABC News that evening.

5. At the close of 1973 the health, morale and conduct of the Ship's Company was satisfactory.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
2
8 JAN A.M.
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

D.J. Martin

(D.J. MARTIN)
CAPTAIN RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

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ANNEX 'A' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER

STEAMING ANNEX

1.	Distance stamed during month	1296.9 nm
2.	Hours underway during month	96.9 hrs
3.	Distance steamed since commissioning	106,608.9 nm
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	7,597.6 hrs

RANOP 0150

Occasions on which fast routing speed has been exceeded for more than one hour.

Date	Duration	Average Speed	Remarks
01 DEC	1 hour	17.6	JUC 90
03 DEC	5 hours	17.5	JUC 90
04 DEC	2 hours	17.5	JUC 90

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ANNEX 'B' TO HMAS TORRENS LETTER 1.16.2 DATED
5 JAN 74

EXERCISE ANCHORAGE

1. Seamanship and Navigation
   Formation Anchorage 2nd.

2. TAS, AIO, GUNNERY.
   LONGEX PHASE JUC 90. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th.

3. DIVING.
   Day Exercise 6th.

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CG 107
(1967)

~~18-6-3556 PT~~
~~HISTORIAN~~

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